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JOURNAL

OR

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

OF THE

Methodist Protestant Church,

HELD IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA,

MAY, 1867.

LYNCHBURG:
VIRGINIAN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE PRINT.
1867.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Convention re-assembled.

The business in order being the election of an Editor, the President appointed as Tellers, C. W. Button and L. W. Bates. The first ballot resulted in the election of Rev. J. T. Murray, he having received twenty-two (22) votes of twenty-five (25) votes cast.

On motion, it was resolved to proceed to the election of a Book Agent, Thos. W. Ewing being nominated, who was elected to the office.

It was moved by Bro. L. W. Bates, that a Committee be appointed to review and revise the Conventional Articles, and report to the next Convention. Carried.

Said Committee was, on motion, to be composed of three, and to be appointed by the Chair.

On motion, adjourned.

MONDAY, 12 O'CLOCK, M., May 7, 1866.

Convention re-assembled, the President in the Chair.

Moved and carried that the salaries of the Editor and Book Agent be referred to the Book Directory.

The Minutes of Saturday were read and adopted.

The President announced the following brethren a Committee on the Conventional Articles: L. W. Bates, S. B. Southerland and Gen. Geo. Vickers.

On motion, it was ordered that the Secretary publish in the *Methodist Protestant* such extracts from these Minutes as he may think appropriate and necessary.

On motion of L. W. Bates, it was ordered that the Secretary record in the *Journal* of the Convention the Minutes of the present and those of the Convention next preceding this.

C. W. Button offered the following testimonial to the late Dr. E. Y. Reese, which was adopted by a rising vote:

The General Convention, having in charge the interests of the *Methodist Protestant* newspaper, deem it proper, at the present session, to express their grateful recognition of the services rendered, as Editor and Book Agent, by our late beloved brother, E. Y. REESE, D.D.; their profound grief at his sad and untimely death, and their veneration for his virtues as a man and a Christian, which should embalm his memory in the Church of which he was so bright an ornament.

C. W. BUTTON,
J. G. WHITFIELD.

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, it was made the duty of the Secretary to forward a copy of the foregoing testimonial to the family of the deceased.

The Minutes being read and adopted, on motion, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

J. G. WHITFIELD, *President.*

J. L. MICHAUX, *Secretary.*

JOURNAL

OF

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

MONTGOMERY, *May 7th, 1867.*

FIRST DAY.

The members elect of the Convention, present at Montgomery, assembled in the Methodist Protestant Church to-day at 10 o'clock, and organized by calling Rev. W. C. Lipscomb, of the Maryland Conference, to the chair.

Religious services were then conducted by Rev. Jno. G. Whitfield, of the Virginia Conference.

On motion of Judge B. S. Bibb, Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, of the Georgia Conference, was elected Secretary, *pro tem.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Maryland Conference.....	W. C. LIPSCOMB, <i>Minister.</i>
Virginia do.	J. G. WHITFIELD, do.
North Carolina Conference.....	W. H. WILLS, do.
Do. do.	G. J. CHERRY, <i>Layman.</i>
Do. do.	DR. L. W. BATCHELOR, do.
Georgia Conference.....	F. H. M. HENDERSON, <i>Minister</i>
Do.	JNO. BASS, <i>Layman.</i>
Alabama Conference.....	D. B. SMEDLEY, <i>Minister.</i>
Do.	S. K. COX, do.
Do.	L. L. HILL, do.
Do.	J. C. DAVIS, do.
Do.	B. S. BIBB, <i>Layman.</i>
Do.	P. T. GRAVES, do.

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Rev. S. K. Cox introduced to the Convention the Rev. Bishops Pierce and McTyeire, and Rev. J. E. Evans, Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. They were kindly received and invited to occupy seats within the bar of the house.

On motion, Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, was set apart as the time to receive the message of the Commissioners.

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, the election of permanent officers of the Convention was made the order of the day, for 12 o'clock, M. The Committee on Rules of Order made their report, which, after some amendments, was adopted.

On motion of Rev. L. W. Bates, fifty copies were ordered to be printed for the use of the Convention.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills,

Resolved, That the Convention meet daily at 9 o'clock, A. M., and 3 o'clock, P. M., and adjourn by special motion.

At 12 o'clock, pursuant to order, the Convention proceeded to elect permanent officers. On the second ballot Rev. J. J. Murray, D.D., of Maryland, was chosen President; Mr. C. W. Button, of Virginia, was elected principal, and Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, of Georgia, assistant Secretary.

The following members were appointed a Committee on Pulpit Services: Revs. S. K. Cox, F. L. B. Shaver, and J. C. Davis.

The Convention then adjourned with prayer by Bishop Pierce.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention met and was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. Dr. Duggan.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned till Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. W. H. Wills.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. Jno. J. Murray, D.D.

On motion of Mr. P. T. Graves, a committee was appointed to examine certificates and complete the list of members entitled to seats in the Convention. Revs. W. H. Wills, S. B. Southerland, and Mr. P. T. Graves were named as the committee. After a brief examination, the committee reported the following named members present:

From the Maryland Conference—J. J. Murray, D.D., L. W. Bates, S. B. Southerland, J. K. Nichols, D. Bowers, Dr. H. F. Zollickoffer, J. Roberts, D. E. Reese, W. C. Lipscomb, *Ministers*; T. A. Newman, W. D. Massey, A. Donelson, Wm. Turpin, W. H. Wheatley, L. J. Cox, Jr., *Laymen*.

From the Virginia Conference—J. G. Whitfield, G. R. Barr, Wm. McGee, *Ministers*; C. W. Button, *Layman*.

From the North Carolina Conference—W. H. Wills, *Minister*; G. J. Cherry, Dr. L. W. Batchelor, *Laymen*.

From the Tennessee Conference—Dr. B. F. Duggan, *Minister*.

From the Georgia Conference—F. H. M. Henderson, *Minister*; Jno. Bass, *Layman*.

From the Alabama Conference—Dr. D. B. Smedley, S. K. Cox, L. L. Hill, J. C. Davis, F. L. B. Shaver, *Ministers*; Judge B. S. Bibb, P. T. Graves, J. B. Clayton, E. C. Crenshaw, *Laymen*.

From the Mississippi Conference—P. H. Napier, *Minister*; Peter, Loper, *Layman*.

North Mississippi Conference—A. A. Houston, *Minister*; W. R. Montgomery, *Layman*.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. WILLS, *Chairman*.

A letter was received and read from Rev. W. W. Tipton, President of the Illinois District of the Methodist Protestant Church, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The President announced the following committees:

On Constitutional Amendments—J. G. Whitfield, F. L. B. Shaver, L. W. Bates, L. W. Batchelor, John Bass.

On Boundaries—W. H. Wills, A. A. Houston, G. R. Barr, E. C. Crenshaw, Wm. Turpin.

Judiciary—W. C. Lipscomb, J. K. Nichols, L. L. Hill, B. S. Bibb, G. J. Cherry.

Executive—F. L. B. Shaver, J. L. Michaux, Jno. Roberts, P. T. Graves, W. R. Montgomery.

Ritual—S. B. Southerland, S. K. Cox, C. F. Harris, W. D. Massey, J. B. Clayton.

Means of Grace—P. H. Napier, D. Evans Reese, D. B. Smedley, Peter Loper, W. H. Wheatley.

Home and Foreign Missions—B. F. Duggan, T. H. Pegram, D. Bowers, L. J. Cox, Jr., A. Donalson.

Sabbath Schools—W. McGee, H. F. Zollickoffer, J. C. Davis, J. B. McDaniel, Thos. A. Newman.

A communication, signed by Bishop Pierce, Chairman, was received from the Commissioners appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.* After the reading thereof, Bishops Pierce and McTyeire, the Rev. Dr. L. M. Lee, and Rev. J. E. Evans, severally addressed the Convention upon the subject of a union of the churches, in words of brotherly kindness and christian charity. The President of the Convention responded to the addresses of the Commissioners in proper terms. Further responses were made

*See appendix A.

A communication from Rev. John Sexsmith, of Des Moines Mission, was received, read, and by order of Conference, laid on the table.

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, a committee of five on Constitutional Amendments, was appointed. The Chair designated J. G. Whitfield, F. L. B. Shaver, L. W. Bates, L. W. Batchelor, and John Bass, as the committee.

On motion of Mr. W. D. Massey, the Chair was instructed to appoint committees on the following subjects, viz: On Boundary, Judiciary, Executive, Ritual, Means of Grace, Sabbath Schools, and Home and Foreign Missions.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned with prayer by Rev. W. H. Wills.

MORNING SESSION—THIRD DAY.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. T. H. Pegram. The following ministerial members from North Carolina Conference, appeared and were admitted to seats, viz: Jno. L. Michaux, C. F. Harris, Thos. H. Pegram, W. McB. Roberts.

Rev. J. G. Whitfield offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments:

Resolved, That the 8th article, 1st section, page 22, of Discipline, be amended by striking out the word "Tuesday" in May and insert "Thursday."

Rev. W. H. Wills offered sundry resolutions proposing changes in the 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th and 17th articles of the constitution; also, sundry resolutions proposing changes in the Discipline, all of which were referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

Tennessee	DR. B. F. DUGGAN.
Alabama.....	F. L. B. SHAVER..
Do.	P. T. GRAVES.
Georgia	F. M. H. HENDERSON.
Do.	JOHN BASS.
Mississippi.....	P. H. NAPIER.
Do.	PETER LOPER.
North Mississippi.....	A. A. HOUSTON.
Do.	W. R. MONTGOMERY.

The letter from Rev. John Sexsmith was referred to the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions.

Pending a resolution for the present laid on the table, the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Judge Bibb presented the name of Col. E. Harrison, alternate from the Alabama Conference, in place of Dr. Howard, and his name was ordered to be enrolled. A paper, offered by Reverend Dr. Murray, was referred to the Executive Committee; also one by Dr. Batchelor—referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

The Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. G. Whitfield.

FIFTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. A. A. Houston.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions reported on Rev. John Sexsmith's letter, which, by order of the Convention was recommitted to the same Committee.

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, the minutes of yesterday were corrected so far as to include certain resolutions presented by Rev. T. H. Pegram and Dr. H. F. Zollickoffer, and referred, notice of which was omitted. The minutes were then adopted.

on the part of the Convention, by Rev. S. K. Cox, Mr. P. T. Graves, Rev's L. L. Hill, B. F. Duggan, J. G. Whitfield, W. McB. Roberts, and Dr. Batchelor, whereupon, the following resolutions, submitted by Rev. S. K. Cox, were adopted:

Resolved, That we extend our cordial greeting to Rev. Bishop Pierce, Rev. Bishop McTyeire, Rev. L. M. Lee, D.D., and Rev. J. E. Evans, Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to this body; that we warmly welcome them to a place in our assembly, and heartily reciprocate the sentiments of christian affection and regard which they have expressed. That, while we rejoice in this fraternal interchange as a means of cementing the bonds of brotherly love and promoting unity of spirit among the members of Christ's body, we agree with them that a visible union of the two churches of the great family of Methodism, represented respectively by them and us, is most desirable, if such a union can be effected on terms mutually agreeable.

Resolved, That one ministerial and one lay commissioner from each district represented in this Convention be elected by the delegations from their respective districts, to confer with the Commission of our sister Church on the subject of their embassy.

On motion, the Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. Bishop McTyeire.

FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention met and was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. S. B. Southerland. Sundry resolutions were offered by Rev. L. W. Bates, and referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

The President announced the following as Commissioners to confer with the Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

North Carolina.....	W. H. WILLS
Do.	G. J. CHERRY.
Virginia.....	J. G. WHITFIELD.
Do.	C. W. BUTTON.
Maryland.....	S. B. SOUTHERLAND.
Do.	L. J. COX, JR.

The Executive Committee reported the following on the paper referred to them, recommending amendment of Article II, Section 2, of Constitution, page 27, declaring that:

We concur in the opinion that the amendment is proper, but recommend that the words "when required by the Annual Conference," be thrown in after "District" in the 6th line from the top, with a comma between the word "Conference" followed by the semi-colon.

F. L. B. SHAVER, *Chairman.*

Rev. John Roberts offered a resolution which was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. D. Bowers.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. S. K. Cox.

Rev. W. McB. Roberts presented the following resolution, which, as amended, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Convention suspend its regular deliberations at 4 o'clock this afternoon, for the purpose of conferring together on questions of christian experience.

When the hour had arrived, the Convention suspended its regular business, and was addressed in a very impressive manner by the mover of the resolution, who endeavored to elicit a free interchange of sentiment upon the great subject of a higher religious life as the only means giving power and efficiency to the Ministry and the Church of Christ. He was followed by Mr. W. H. Wheatley, in a most refreshing chapter of christian experience. Rev. L. W. Bates submitted some remarks upon the subject. Rev. D. E. Reese added some appropriate reflections. Revs. J. Roberts and J. C. Davis also gave some fine utterances, the meeting

A resolution was then adopted, on motion of Rev. J. L. Michaux, proposing a special committee of five to devise measures for the improvement of the colored race.

Committee—J. L. Michaux, Daniel Bowers, L. W. Batchelor, B. S. Bibb, L. J. Cox, Jr.

On motion, a recess of one hour was taken.

The Convention resumed its session, when the following report of the Committee on Foreign Missions in the case of Rev. John Sexsmith, was adopted:

The Committee report that they, having the letter* of Rev. John Sexsmith under consideration, are of opinion that we have cause of congratulation at the prosperity of the church in Des Moines Mission, and that the thanks of this Convention are due Bro. Sexsmith for the efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of the Mission

First, We recommend the appointment of a Board of Missions by this Convention in accordance with the Discipline, to be located in the City of Baltimore.

Second, That this Convention grant Bro. Sexsmith a certificate, as requested.

Third, That so much of said communication as refers to a new Conference or Mission District, be referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Fourth, That the communication of Bro. Sexsmith be referred to the Board of Missions, with the request that if the services of Bro. Sexsmith can be secured, he be continued on the Mission.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. DUGGAN, *Chairman*.

An amendment, by way of addition to the above, was offered by Rev. John Roberts, and referred to the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions.

Rev. J. K. Nichols offered a resolution which was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

A resolution, offered by Rev. G. R. Barr, was referred to the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions.

*See Appendix B.

We have also represented in this Convention a North Mississippi Conference; but in conversation with the representatives therefrom, they inform us that believing it best, they contemplate a union of the Mississippi and North Mississippi Conferences, so as to form but one District, and that to be the Mississippi.

Your Committee having had Bro. Sexsmith's letter before them, also recommend the creation of a new District to be known as the Des Moines Mission Conference, with authority to the members of their first Annual Conference to define the metes and bounds of the same and report their proceedings to the next General Conference.

Conforming our action to the foregoing, we therefore define the several Conference Districts as they are found in the last edition of the Discipline, with the addition that the Illinois District shall extend its boundaries so as to include the territory now embraced in the North Illinois District.*

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. WILLS, *Chairman.*

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, a Committee on Literature was ordered. The following named persons constitute the Committee: J. K. Nichols, G. R. Barr, W. McB. Roberts, C. W. Button, P. T. Graves.

On motion, a Committee on Finance was ordered, consisting of L. W. Batchelor, B. S. Bibb, T. A. Newman. Sundry resolutions were reported back from the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and referred to other committees.

A memorial from the unstationed ministers in Maryland was submitted by Rev. W. C. Lipscomb, and referred to a special committee of five, as follows: W. C. Lipscomb, W. H. Wills, L. J. Cox, Jr., W. D. Massey, B. S. Bibb.

On motion of Rev. L. W. Bates,

Resolved, That the word "ultimately" in the third line from the top of page 43 be stricken out; also the same word at the bottom of page 46.

On motion of the same,

*See letter of Rev. W. W. Tipton, Appendix C.

the while deepening in interest. Dr. Batchelor made a closing address. A most excellent meeting.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. Dr. Petre of the Presbyterian Church.

SIXTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. P. H. Napier. Leave of absence was granted to Rev. D. B. Smedley and Mr. J. B. Clayton. Rev. Isaac Spangler as alternate delegate for Rev. D. B. Smedley, was allowed to fill his place.

A report from the Committee on Boundaries was submitted, pending the discussion of which, the Convention took a recess for fifteen minutes.

The Convention resumed its session, when the pending report was considered and adopted:

The Committee on Boundaries having had the subjects committed to them under consideration, submit the following report: Their duties have been two-fold:

1. To determine what Conferences are in affiliation with the Methodist Protestant Church; and
2. To define the boundaries of the Conference Districts of the same.

Your Committee have found much difficulty in deciding, in regard to some of the Conferences, not having had sufficient testimony before them. They have no doubt, however, that the following Conference Districts are properly included as adhering to the Methodist Protestant Church; that is to say, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, West Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois. We may also include Platte, although your Committee know nothing personally or by testimony of said Conference. The same may be said also of the South Carolina Conference, which we have here included. Your Committee learn that the Florida Conference has long since ceased to exist.

We have had some difficulty in determining the status of the West Virginia Conference. From all the lights before us however, we do not feel authorized to include that Conference, and recommend that she be held in abeyance for future developments of her relative position.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. J. K. Nichols.

Discussion resumed on the pending resolutions offered by Rev. S. K. Cox, and continued until, on motion of Rev. S. B. Southerland, the Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. G. R. Barr.

SEVENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. H. F. Zollickoffer.

Dr. C. M. Howard was introduced and enrolled as a lay member from the Alabama Conference.

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments submitted a lengthy report, which was received and laid on the table.

Rev. J. G. Whitfield submitted a motion to the following effect: That, when an alternate appears to take the place of a principal, the fact shall be noted on the minutes, and his name be entered on the roll to supersede the principal. Adopted.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills the rules of order were suspended, when, on further motion of Bro. Wills, the Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church were invited to address the Convention on the subject before us, at such times as may be agreeable to them.

Discussion was resumed on the pending resolutions offered by Rev. S. K. Cox, and continued until on motion the Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. D. E. Reese.

Resolved, That on page 101, in the ceremony of Baptism, the pledge required of parents and guardians be transferred to page 99, so as to follow the address.

On motion of the same,

Resolved, That the Committee on Ritual revise the order for Public Worship, on page 91 of Discipline.

On motion of Rev. D. Bowers, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That on page 18 of the Constitution, article 5, insert after the word "station" the word "where;" also after the word "meeting" in the second line, insert the words "it shall be."

On motion, adjourned with prayer by Mr. A. Donalson.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. John Mathews of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Certain resolutions were introduced by Dr. Batchelor and referred to appropriate committees.

The Judiciary Committee reported in favor of striking out "Tuesday" and inserting "Friday," in article 15, section 1. Adopted.

The report of the Committee on Church union being in order, majority and minority reports were submitted.*

The reports being all laid on the table, a paper was submitted by Rev. S. K. Cox upon the same subject, pending the discussion of which the Rev. A. G. Brewer of Alabama, was introduced to the Conference, and admitted to honorary membership. The discussion resumed, pending which the Convention adjourned till 8 o'clock, P. M., with prayer by Rev. J. E. Evans, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

*See Appendix D.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was, on motion, taken up and adopted.

The Committee on Credentials, directed to complete the list of representatives elect to this General Convention, submit this final report.

From published minutes and other sources of information we are satisfied that the names of the following absentees are entitled to be recorded:

MARYLAND—B. H. Richardson, John Coates, Richard Thomas, *Lay Representatives*.

VIRGINIA—R. B. Thomson, D. D., *Ministerial Representative*; Gen. H. B. Woodhouse, Wm. Harding, M. T. Peoples, *Lay Representatives*.

NORTH CAROLINA—Alson Gray, Jno. Paris, Wm. C. Kennett, A. W. Lineberry, *Ministerial Representatives*; Henry Walser, D. M. Lee, S. V. Pickens, W. A. Cox, Dr. Wm. A. Coble, Jno. F. Harris, Dr. M. C. Whitaker, *Lay Representatives*.

TENNESSEE—R. H. Whitaker, *Lay Representative*.

GEORGIA—Samuel C. Masters, *Ministerial Representative*.

The Committee are aware that there are other Conferences, some of which have elected representatives to this General Convention; but as your Committee are not further advised, we therefore submit this resolution:

Resolved, That the Editors of the *Methodist Protestant* be requested to complete the list and publish it in the *Methodist Protestant*, and from that publication the Secretary of this Convention shall fill up the blank in his minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. WILLS, *Chairman*.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments was taken up and considered by items. Addition to elementary principles, section 8, at the end as follows:

"But all power not delegated to the respective official bodies of the Methodist Protestant Church are retained to said ministers and members."
Adopted.

The following alterations in the constitution, recommended by the Committee, were adopted:

1. ART. 3, SEC. 2—Insert after stations "and Missions."
2. ART. 6, SEC. 1—Put the foot note into the text at the end of the section.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services conducted by Rev. J. E. Evans of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Discussion was continued until, on motion, the Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. K. Nichols.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. B. F. Duggan.

The consideration of the papers relative to church union was resumed, and the discussion continued until, on motion, the Convention adjourned with prayer by Rev. W. C. Lipscomb.

EIGHTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. C. F. Harris.

The Committee on Credentials made a full report of the list of members elected to this Convention, as far as they could be ascertained. The report was laid on the table.

On motion of Rev. S. K. Cox, all the papers relating to church union were referred to a special committee of eight, to report at 4 o'clock this afternoon. Rev. S. K. Cox, C. W. Button, G. J. Cherry, J. K. Nichols, P. H. Napier, Jno. Bass, W. H. Wills, E. Harrison, Committee.

On motion, the Convention adjourned with prayer by Mr. P. H. Loper.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. John Roberts.

NINTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. F. L. B. Shaver.

On motion of Rev. L. W. Bates, the rules of order were suspended, whereupon he offered a motion to the following effect:

Resolved, That the rules of order be changed so as to restrict the time of each speaker to five minutes, and to allow him to speak but once on the same subject. Adopted.

The reports of Committees being called for, additional reports were submitted by the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions.

The report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, under consideration yesterday, was taken up and further acted upon:

1. ART. 12, SEC. 1—Report of the Committee amended so as to read: Transfer the word "white" so as to follow the first "every" and strike out the first conjunction "and" and insert a comma after "minister." Strike out the second "every" and change the second section in like manner. Adopted.

2. ART. 10, SEC. 7—Report of the Committee amended so as to read: Strike out "three" and insert "four" in fourth line. After the word "and," in fifth line, insert "station" and strike out all that follows. Adopted.

Further consideration of the report was deferred in order to receive the report of the Special Committee on Church Union, which was signed by all the members of the Committee, and submitted by their Chairman, Rev. S. K. Cox. A motion was made to lay the report on the table, and the vote taken by ayes and noes, with the following result: Those voting in the affirmative were, J. J. Murray, S. B. Southerland, D. Bowers, H. F. Zollickoffer, J. Roberts, W. C. Lipscomb, T. A. Newman, W.

3. ART. 7 SEC. 1—Strike out "ordained" in the second line from the top of page. Also strike out the words in section 3, fourth line from the top, "as fixed by the Convention." Also strike out foot note on page 22.

4. ART. 9, SEC. 2—At the end of the section add: "But the General Conference may authorize the several Annual Conferences to determine the salary for its itinerant ministers and preachers and the allowance for their wives, widows and children." In section 4 of same article, in the 6th line from the top, strike out "or" and insert after the word "district," and, "provided also, any district shall have power to divide and set off."

5. ART. 14, SEC. 1—Define who are "the proper authorities," explained on page 36 of Discipline.

6. ART. 9, SEC. 2—Strike out the "and," also, "the compensation and duties of the book agent, editor," &c.

7. ART. 11, PAGE 29—The following was adopted in lieu of Committee's report. Strike out all after the word "stewards" in 5th line from top of page.

8. ART. 5—The following, on motion of Dr. Murray, was adopted, in lieu of committee's report and as a substitute for this Article: There shall be in every station a meeting of the members of the church, to be styled the Monthly Meeting, at which reports shall be received from the leaders, stewards and superintendents of sabbath schools, and inquiry shall be made respecting the sick, poor, and such as require pastoral attention. The superintendent, if present, shall preside, and endeavor to make the occasion one of spiritual profit as well as of advantage to the temporal economy of the Church. It is recommended that monthly meetings be held in circuits and missions wherever practicable.

The further consideration of this report was deferred, while the Special Committee to whom were referred the various papers relating to Church Union submitted their report. No action was taken thereon by the Convention, leave being granted the Committee to withdraw their report in order to confer again with the Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The Convention then adjourned with the benediction, pronounced by Rev L. W. Bates.

Nays—J. J. Murray, L. W. Bates, S. B. Southerland, D. Bowers, H. F. Zollickoffer, J. Roberts, W. C. Lipscomb, W. D. Massey, A. Donelson, W. H. Wheatley, G. R. Barr, C. F. Harris, W. McB. Roberts, J. B. McDaniel, L. L. Hill, C. E. Crenshaw—16.

Rev. W. H. Wills submitted a substitute for the remainder of the report, which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes—J. K. Nichols, D. E. Reese, T. A. Newman, W. H. Wheatley, L. J. Cox, Jr., J. G. Whitfield, W. McGee, C. W. Button, W. H. Wills, J. L. Michaux, T. H. Pegramp, G. J. Cherry, F. H. M. Henderson, J. Bass, J. B. McDaniel, I. Spangler, S. K. Cox, J. C. Davis, F. L. B. Shaver, B. S. Bibb, C. M. Howard, E. Harrison, A. A. Houston, W. R. Montgomery, P. H. Napier, P. Loper, B. F. Duggan, L. W. Batchelor—26.

Nays—J. J. Murray, L. W. Bates, S. B. Southerland, D. Bowers, H. F. Zollickoffer, J. Roberts. W. C. Lipscomb, W. D. Massey, A. Donalson, W. Turpin, G. R. Barr, C. F. Harris, W. McB. Roberts, L. L. Hill, C. E. Crenshaw—15.

The following is the report as amended and adopted:

The committee to whom were referred the several papers on the subject of union between the Methodist Protestant Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report:

That they regard the proposed union as highly desirable both for the interest of Methodism and of our common Christianity, if it can be effected upon terms mutually agreeable;—That, although a portion of the church, as we are advised, is prepared at this time, to conclude the union on the terms proposed; yet, inasmuch as an honest difference of opinion exists among us, in this respect, and no decision can be reached by this body at its present session that will insure harmony and united action, we, therefore, respectfully recommend:

D. Massey, A. Donelson, W. Turpin, W. H. Wheatley, G. R. Barr, J. L. Michaux, C. F. Harris, W. McB. Roberts, F. H. M. Henderson, J. B. McDaniel, L. L. Hill, C. E. Crenshaw—19.

Nays—L. W. Bates, J. K. Nichols, D. E. Reese, L. J. Cox, Jr., J. G. Whitfield, W. McGee, C. W. Button, W. H. Wills, T. H. Pegram, G. J. Cherry, L. W. Batchelor, B. F. Duggan, J. Bass, S. K. Cox, J. C. Davis, F. L. B. Shaver, B. S. Bibb, C. M. Howard, A. A. Houston, E. Harrison, W. R. Montgomery, P. H. Napier, Peter Loper—23.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned, with prayer by Rev. Jno. Roberts.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. A. A. Houston.

Consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Church Union resumed. Rev. L. W. Bates made an ineffectual effort to amend by striking out, “although a considerable portion of the church is prepared at this time to conclude the union on the terms proposed.” The word “considerable” was subsequently stricken out, and the words, “as we are advised” inserted. The preamble and first resolution of the report were then adopted by the following vote, upon a call for the yeas and nays:

Ayes—J. K. Nichols, D. E. Reese, T. A. Newman, L. J. Cox, Jr., J. G. Whitfield, W. McGee, C. W. Button, W. H. Wills, J. L. Michaux, T. H. Pegram, G. J. Cherry, L. W. Batchelor, F. H. M. Henderson, J. Bass, I. Spangler, J. C. Davis, F. L. B. Shaver, B. S. Bibb, C. M. Howard, E. Harrison, A. A. Houston, W. R. Montgomery, P. H. Napier, P. Loper, B. F. Duggan—25.

The following report from the Executive Committee, was, on motion, adopted. The Committee recommend that the following be inserted in Discipline, page 37:

When any member of the church is reported to the Superintendent as walking disorderly, he, in connexion with the Advisory Committee shall make inquiry respecting the truth of the report, and if they are satisfied that the person accused is by his conduct bringing a reproach upon the church, the Superintendent by the advice of the Committee shall admonish the offender to repent. If the person admonished bring forth fruits meet for repentance no further notice shall be taken of the case; but if he persist in his sinful conduct he shall be warned not to present himself at the Lord's table until the cause of offence be removed.

If the offender refuse to submit to the decision of the Committee, they shall then prefer charges and proceed according to the directions contained in the sections following.

On motion of Rev. S. B. Southerland:

Resolved, That on pages 41, 42 and 46 of Discipline, the word "leaders" be eliminated and the word "monthly" inserted wherever it occurs.

The Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, having signified a desire to take their leave of the Convention, opportunity was afforded by a pause in the regular proceedings, when Bishops Pierce and McTyeire, and Revs. J. E. Evans and L. M. Lee, severally addressed the Convention in terms of brotherly affection. The President made a suitable response, when the following resolution, offered by Rev. S. K. Cox, was adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we hereby express our high appreciation of the Christian candor and courtesy with which the Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, have presented the object of their mission to this Convention, and to the Commission appointed to confer with them, and the fraternal spirit they have manifested in all their intercourse with us.

Resolved, That in leaving our body they carry with them the warmest assurances of our brotherly affection and regard, and our prayers to God for his blessing upon them personally and upon their holy work.

1st. That the Convention take no decisive action at this time; but that the whole subject be held in abeyance and under advisement by the several Annual Conferences, calmly awaiting the development and indications of Providence.

2nd. That a commission consisting of one member from each Conference here represented, elected by each delegation in this Convention, be appointed to meet the Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, on the first day of May, 1868; in the meantime the several Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church, may consider as many of the disagreeing propositions between the two Commissions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church as they may deem proper, and submit the result to their respective Commissions. Then, if a majority of the Commissioners of the Methodist Protestant Church decide that, in their judgment, the propositions submitted to them are sufficiently favorable, they shall publish in the Methodist Protestant newspaper a call for this Convention to meet in the city of Lynchburg, on the last Friday in May, 1868, and, if it deems it proper, to conclude any proposed union.

The following named members asked and obtained leave to record their names in opposition to the whole series of papers on their final passage: W. C. Lipscomb, G. R. Barr, L. W. Bates, W. D. Massey, S. B. Southerland, A. Donelson, J. Roberts, D. Bowers, H. F. Zollickoffer, W. Turpin, W. McB. Roberts.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills:

Resolved, That, in the event of the death or other disability of any of the Commissioners herein appointed, the delegation of the respective Annual Conference here represented be authorized to fill the vacancy.

On motion of Rev. J. G. Whitfield:

Resolved, That any Annual Conference properly connected with the Methodist Protestant Church, not represented here, be requested to appoint one commissioner to meet with this Commission.

The Convention then adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M., with the benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. L. W. Bates.

1. Amend Article 15, section 3, so as to read: "Every decision of the Judiciary shall be in writing, and shall be published in the periodical belonging to the church. The Judiciary tribunal shall also publish in like manner the reasons for their opinion upon the part or provision, &c., and strike out the first resolution on page 34."

2. In regard to the question raised on the provision of the constitution, Article 17, section 2. "When shall we have another General Conference?" We recommend that in case this Convention should not reassemble at Lynchburg in May, 1868, in view of the circumstances of the church, the next General Conference be held in 1870.

3. Page 45 Discipline, item 6, amend so as to read: "The Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station shall keep a register in which shall be entered the names of all the males, in full membership, over the age of 21 years, and all baptisms and marriages. It shall be the duty of all our ministers to report for record to the Quarterly Conferences within whose jurisdiction the parties reside, all baptisms and marriages performed by them. The Quarterly Conference shall, when required in any given case by an Annual Conference, send up to that body its journal for examination."

A report was made by the Committee on Ritual, to which various amendments were proposed, and finally on motion of Rev. W. H. Wills, the Committee was continued, with instructions to report to the next General Convention, if it should meet; otherwise, to the next General Conference. The Committee on Missions recommended that a Board of Missions, consisting of twelve, and to be located in Baltimore, be appointed by the Convention. The following named persons were constituted the Board: S. B. Southerland, W. C. Lipscomb, J. J. Murray, H. F. Zollickoffer, L. J. Cox, *Ministers*; E. C. Thomas, John Coates, B. H. Richardson, Wm. Bond, J. G. Clark, A. J. Fairbanks, Jas. Bond, *Laymen*.

The Committee on Literature submitted a report, which was adopted as follows:

The Literary Committee beg leave to report as follows:

1. PAGE 129—In the heading of the Course of Study, erase the word "travelling" before the word "deacons." Then insert the following: "The General Convention hereby authorize the several Annual Confer-

A short recess was then taken, when the members of the Convention, individually, exchanged farewell greetings with the Commissioners.

The Convention resumed its deliberations, when, on motion, it was adjourned with prayer by Rev. G. H. McFaden.

TENTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Dr. L. W. Batchelor.

On motion, the Convention granted leave to certain members to spread the following upon the journal:

In voting nay on the propositions for union with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the undersigned would not be understood as receding from the proposition that "union is desirable on terms mutually agreeable;" but as simply expressing their unwillingness to "modify essentially the terms proposed by our Commissioners;" and their belief that the Commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will not, at as early a date as May next, be clothed with power to accede to the terms aforesaid.

JOHN J. MURRAY.

L. W. BATES.

W. D. MASSEY.

S. B. SOUTHERLAND.

DANIEL BOWERS.

H. F. ZOLLIKOFFER.

WILLIAM TURPIN.

A. DONELSON.

J. ROBERTS.

The Rev. W. C. Lipscomb offered a resolution, which, after slight modification, was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That Article 7, section 1, be amended by inserting after the word "ministers" in the 7th line, the following: "Except superannuates, supernumeraries, ministers left without appointments at their own request, and ministers left in the hands of the President."

The Rev. W. C. Lipscomb, from the Judiciary Committee, submitted a report, which, being amended, on motion of Rev. J. Roberts, was adopted as follows:

learn from the memorial of several unstationed ministers in Maryland that they still desire to occupy such relations to the church and the community at large as shall conduce to their dignity and usefulness as accredited ministers of the Gospel of Christ.

2. *Resolved*, That as tending to the accomplishment of this object, our unstationed brethren be invited and encouraged to avail themselves of the provisions of the Discipline already in existence, by which to obtain admission to membership in the Annual Conference.

3. *Resolved*, That the Annual Conferences are hereby requested to place the most liberal constructions upon those provisions of our Constitution and Discipline that they are susceptible of in reference to the connection of supernumerary assistants with the Annual Conferences.

Rev. J. C. Davis asked leave to have the following paper spread upon the journal. Granted.

STATEMENT OF REASON FOR MY VOTE.

Desiring to indicate my personal indisposition to create dissension in the Methodist Protestant Church, and hoping that something may transpire to secure unity of action on the subject of the union of the two churches, between this and the time proposed for the meeting of the Commissioners of the respective churches, which will justify us as a whole church in accepting the union. This controlled my decision. The design of my vote in the affirmative was, therefore, to make negotiations possible at any time, and show ourselves ready through our Commissioners, to receive and act upon without unnecessary delay, any additional propositions from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which may be more or altogether agreeable to us.

J. C. DAVIS.

The report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments was taken from the table and the following deferred items were acted upon:

1. ART. 17, SEC. 2—Strike out the words “next preceding the General Conference,” from the sixth line, and the words “and all other Conventions of this church” from the seventh line. Adopted.

2. ART. 14, SEC. 2—After “committee” in the fourth line add so as to read, “if a minister, of from three to five ministers; or if a preacher, of from three to five ministers or preachers, and the right of appeal, &c.” Adopted.

The entire report was thus adopted.

ces to prescribe for their members such text-books and course of study as they may deem best, but the following is recommended to them for their adoption."

2. PAGE 133—After the list of books erase the sentence: "It is not designed, &c."

The report of the Special Committee on the condition of the colored people was submitted, and by consent withdrawn for the purpose of modifying it.

The following resolution, submitted by Rev. B. F. Duggan, was adopted in the manner indicated:

Resolved, That we will ever hold in grateful remembrance the kindness and hospitality extended to us by our brethren and friends of this City during the session of our General Convention; and we express our appreciation of the same by a rising vote.

The Convention then, on motion, adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. G. Whitfield.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. F. L. B. Shaver.

Rev. W. C. Lipscomb, from the Special Committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Rev. L. J. Cox, and other unstationed ministers in the Maryland District, submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Rev. Luther J. Cox and other brethren of the Maryland District, in reference to the relations of the Local Ministry, respectfully report:

That in consequence of the occupancy of the time of the Convention with the discussion on Church Union, we have been unable to give to the subject that mature reflection which its importance demands. We ask, however, permission to submit the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That we cherish with pleasure the recollection that the Local Ministry so largely contributed to the origin and establishment of our beloved Zion; and that this Convention has been highly gratified to

Rev. J. Roberts submitted the following resolution to amend the article; "Duties of Class Leaders:"

SEC. 5—Strike out and insert: "It shall be the duty of each leader to report to the superintendent all cases of transgression or disobedience in the members of his class, which he believes may require the exercise of discipline. The superintendent shall then appoint a committee of three," &c. Last line, page 66—Strike out that portion of said section referring to circuits, between "In circuits," page 67, 3rd line and "the case," 8th line inclusive. Adopted.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Duggan it was

Resolved, That the next General Conference be held at East Baltimore.

Dr. L. W. Batchelor offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we hereby tender our thanks to the several ministers of this City who have placed their houses of worship at our disposal, and invited us to the occupancy of their pulpits, and invoke the Divine blessing upon them and their charges.

Rev. G. R. Barr offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due and are hereby tendered to officers of railroad companies for the compliment of free passes so kindly furnished the members of this body for their return to their homes.

The Rev. S. K. Cox, seconded by Rev. F. L. B. Shaver, offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, By the several delegations South of Maryland, here present, that we express our grateful appreciation of the generous sympathy of our Maryland brethren in behalf of the destitute portion of our denomination in the South, and for their liberal contributions to their relief.

The report of the Special Committee on the condition of the colored race, was presented by its Chairman, Rev. J. L. Michaux, and adopted, as follows:

The Special Committee to whom was referred a resolution touching the spiritual interests of the colored population, having had the subject under consideration, beg leave to make their report:

The second report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments was then taken up and adopted, as follows:

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments beg leave to make a further report. We recommend the following alterations of the Constitution and Discipline:

1. ART. 2, SEC. 1—Strike out the word "Associated" and insert "Protestant" between Methodist and Church. Also strike out "n" from the article "an" before "Associated" and make the alteration in all other places where it occurs.
2. ART. 6, SEC. 1—After the word "leaders" insert "superintendents of sabbath schools." Section 2, strike out "associated" and insert "other."
3. ART. 15TH, SEC. 1—Strike out the word "one" and insert "two," and also add one minister and layman, and strike out "Tuesday" and insert "Friday."
4. PAGE 36—At the end of the first period add the following: "Which shall be in the neighborhood in which the offence is alleged to have been committed."
5. PAGE 60—Strike out all of the small type from beginning down to "Annual Conference" inclusive, in 11th line, so that the section shall begin: "No district shall be set off unless it contain," &c. Strike out foot note.

Several propositions reported upon adversely, are omitted here.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions submitted the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions recommend the following amendments:

DISCIPLINE, PAGE 73—Fourth paragraph after the word "periodically," in line five: "And to give certificate of transfer or release to any of its missionaries when it may be so required, subject to the conditions in the case of transfer of itinerant ministers under the stationing authority of an Annual Conference, provided he be a member of a Conference."

PAGE 74—After the word "labor" at the end of first paragraph, add: "But no minister or preacher shall be employed as a Home or Foreign Missionary unless he be recommended by a Quarterly Conference, if an unstationed minister or preacher. And the said missionary shall be responsible to the Board of Missions for his official conduct, and to the Quarterly or Annual Conference of which he is a member, for any moral delinquency."

By unanimous consent, the following named persons were appointed, by their respective delegations, the Commissioners of this Convention, to act in a certain contingency already provided for.

For Virginia Conference.....	J. G. Whitfield, C. W. Button.
Maryland do.	S. B. Southerland, L. W. Bates.
North Carolina Conference.....	W. H. Wills, G. J. Cherry.
Tennessee do.	B. F. Duggan, W. J. Finley.
Alabama do.	S. K. Cox, B. S. Bibb.
Georgia do.	J. B. McDaniel, F. H. M. Henderson.
Mississippi do.	P. H. Napier, P. Loper.
North Mississippi do.	A. A. Houston, W. R. Montgomery.

On motion of Rev. L. W. Bates:

Resolved, That Rev. S. B. Southerland, D. Bowers, and Dr. H. F. Zollicker, be appointed a publishing committee to superintend the arranging of the alterations ordered in the Constitution and Discipline, and to correct any that may violate the rules of grammar.

On motion, the Convention adjourned with the benediction, pronounced by Rev. J. K. Nichols.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. W. H. Wills.

An addition to the marriage ceremony, page 106, was moved by Rev. L. W. Bates, and adopted, as follows:

After the words "I will," fourth line from the bottom of the page, insert the following: "If the parties desire the ceremony of the ring, the minister shall now receive the ring from the hand of the man, and say to him: You will now place this ring on the fourth finger of the left hand of your bride, to remain as a perpetual memorial of the holy covenant into which you have both entered and of the solemn pledges which you have each made to the other, in the presence of Him who hath said: 'And they twain shall be one flesh.' Or he shall direct the man to place the ring as aforesaid, and repeat after him the following words: 'With this ring I thee wed, and with my wordly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.'"

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills:

It would argue a degree of indifference to the interests of this class of our population, if we should suffer this occasion to pass without an earnest effort to improve their condition. It is believed by us that the polity and doctrines of the Methodist Protestant Church are well adapted to meet the wants and develop the capabilities of this numerous and necessitous people, but as there is an evident preference among them for an organization of their own, we have thought proper to recommend the following:

That the Annual Conferences be authorized and requested to appoint a Conference Missionary, into whose hands shall be committed the work of organizing the colored people into societies, and of introducing among them such plans of instruction and evangelization as shall comport with the genius of the Methodist Protestant Church. The Annual Conference shall define the duties and responsibilities of its Missionary, requiring conformity with the letter and intent of our Discipline so far as the circumstances of the colored race will permit.

And the Annual Conference shall direct the manner for the examination of candidates for license to preach and for orders, having in view the separate organization of the colored people and the formation of Annual Conferences of their own under the style of —— Methodist Protestant Church.

The following resolution, additional thereto, was offered by Rev. S. K. Cox, and adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That we feel a deep and abiding interest in the spiritual welfare of the colored race, and pledge ourselves to every practical effort for their religious improvement.
2. *Resolved*, That we regard it as highly desirable that we should retain our colored membership in our own connection and under the charge of our ministers and Quarterly Conferences, both as a means of promoting moral culture and maintaining bonds of friendship and mutual confidence between us.

Rev. J. K. Nichols offered the following resolution:

To strike out on page 90 of Discipline, the concluding words of the first paragraph, which are as follows: "While the preacher and congregation are yet kneeling." Adopted.

Rev. T. H. Pegram offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That our thanks are due and they are hereby tendered to the President and Secretary of this Convention for the very satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them.

correct them, and that He would be pleased to give his sanction and blessing to whatever of our legislation that may be according to His wise and holy will.

On motion, the Convention, after singing a hymn and joining in prayer, offered by the oldest member present, Rev. W. C. Lipscomb, adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN J. MURRAY, *Pres't.*

CHAS. W. BUTTON,
F. H. M. HENDERSON, } *Secretaries.*

Resolved, That on page 34 of constitution, after the words: “**Resolved**,” “That the ratio of representation, &c.,” be stricken out.

An additional resolution was offered by the same, to go on page 61:

That the present ratio of representation be one minister and one layman for every 1000 members. Adopted.

On motion of Rev. H. F. Zollickoffer:

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention be appointed a Committee to publish 1000 copies of the minutes of the Convention, and that the Book Concern be requested to defray the expense of publication.

On motion of Rev. J. K. Nichols:

Resolved, As the sense of this Convention, that it is the duty of superintendents to keep a register of members, baptisms and marriages, independently of that kept by the Quarterly Conference. [See Discipline, page 62, section 8.]

It was moved, also, by the same:

That page 61, section 2, be amended so as to read: “To receive persons on probation, assign them to classes, where they do not select for themselves, and execute discipline.” Adopted.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills:

Resolved, That when the Convention adjourns, it adjourn to meet subject to the call of the Commissioners appointed for the purpose.

As the last business of the Convention, the Rev. S. B. Southerland offered the following paper, which was adopted:

Whereas, This Convention has been called, in the Providence of God, to act upon propositions of the weightiest character, some of which were altogether unparalleled in the history of our Church; and,

Whereas, While we are conscious of the purest Christian intentions in all that we have done, yet equally conscious of human liability to err, and feeling our entire dependence upon God for guidance in the future; therefore,

Resolved, That we do now and will continue to humbly and earnestly implore the Great Head of the Church, if we have committed errors, to

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.

P. H. NAPIER.

LAYMEN.

PETER LOPER.

FROM THE NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.

A. A. HOUSTON.

W. R. MONTGOMERY.

FROM THE TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

DR. B. F. DUGGAN.

R. H. WHITAKER.*

FROM THE INDIANA CONFERENCE.

B. F. PERRY.*

I. BURKHEAD.*

FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

C. McSMITH.*

JOHN G. GRANT.*

FROM THE SOUTH ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

E. C. G. NICKENS.*

JAMES W. NEWTON.*

FROM THE WEST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

GEO. F. A. SPILLER.*

GEORGE REEMS.*

FROM THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

ISAIAH C. WALLACE.*

DR. E. HEARN.*

*Not present.

LIST OF MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE CONVENTION.

FROM THE MARYLAND CONFERENCE.

MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
W. C. LIPSCOMB.	T. A. NEWMAN.
J. J. MURRAY, D.D.	W. D. MASSEY.
L. W. BATES.	A. DONELSON.
S. B. SOUTHERLAND.	WM. TURPIN.
J. K. NICHOLS.	W. H. WHEATLEY.
DANIEL BOWERS.	L. J. COX, JR.
DR. H. F. ZOLLIKOFFER.	B. H. RICHARDSON.*
JOHN ROBERTS.	JOHN COATES.*
D. E. REESE.	RICHARD THOMAS.*

FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

W. H. WILLS.	G. J. CHERRY.
T. H. PEGRAM.	DR. L. W. BATCHELOR.
J. L. MICHAUX.	HENRY WALSER.*
C. F. HARRIS.	D. M. LEE.*
W. McB. ROBERTS.	S. V. PICKENS.*
ALISON GRAY,*	W. A. COE.*
JOHN PARIS.*	DR. W. A. COBLE.*
W. C. KENNEDY.*	JOHN F. HARRIS.*
A. W. LINEBERRY.*	DR. M. C. WHITAKER.*

FROM THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

R. B. THOMSON, D.D.*	C. W. BUTTON.
J. G. WHITFIELD.	GEN. H. B. WOODHOUSE.
G. R. BARR.	CAPT. WM. HARDING.*
WM. McGEE.	M. T. PEOPLES.*

FROM THE ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

DR. D. B. SMEDLEY.	JUDGE B. S. BIBB.
S. K. COX, D.D.	P. T. GRAVES.
L. L. HILL.	J. B. CLAYTON.
J. C. DAVIS.	C. E. CRENSHAW.

FROM THE GEORGIA CONFERENCE.

F. H. M. HENDERSON.	JOHN BASS.
SAMUEL C. MASTERS.*	

*Not present.

LETTER OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH:

MONTGOMERY ALABAMA, May 10th, 1867.

To the Commissioners of the Methodist Protestant Church:

BRETHREN.—The Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, submit to you the following propositions: We propose a formal and corporate union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church. The separation originally took place because Lay Representation was denied. This principle, being now conceded and incorporated into the economy of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, we have thought there was no inseparable bar to such a union of the two bodies respectively represented by us. We propose a union with your ministers, itinerant and local, and your members, each in their several relations and entitled to all the rights and privileges common to our own ministers and members under the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

GEORGE F. PIERCE.

H. N. McTYEIRE.

J. E. EVANS.

LEROY M. LEE.

PROPOSITIONS OF THE COMMISSION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH TO THE COMMISSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH. TERMS OF UNION:

1. Strike out of the church name the word "South."
2. If "Episcopal" be retained in the name, "Protestant" to be incorporated.
3. Dispense with the Presiding Eldership.
4. Have as many Bishops as Annual Conferences.
5. In the election of new Bishops, what are now our Annual Conferences shall have the privilege of nominating from their present members their first Bishops, and the General Conference shall elect said nominees.
6. Itinerant ministers to have the right of appeal from the stationing power.
7. Maryland Conference, in the event of union, to be allowed to decide upon its own name, ministerial membership and boundaries; provided said boundaries be not extended farther south than the States of Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia, and the Station in Alexandria.
8. Our system of trial of accused ministers or members, or its equivalent.

(APPENDIX A.)

The following papers are published by order of the Convention.

LETTER OF BISHOP PIERCE, CHAIRMAN, READ TO THE CONVENTION.

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, *May 8th, 1867.*

To the Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church:

BRETHREN,—The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held in New Orleans, adopted, May 3rd, 1866, the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That a Commission, consisting of five members of this body and two bishops, be appointed to confer with a Commission, if one be appointed, from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, now in session in Georgetown, D. C., on the subject of union between the Methodist Protestant Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with power to settle terms of union.”

Accordingly, the following Commissioners were appointed:

Bishops Pierce and McTyeire, Revs. C. F. Deems, J. E. Evans, S. Register, N. Head, and L. M. Lee.

For the official documents, we refer you to a copy of the Journal of General Conference, herewith submitted. This action was communicated to your General Conference, and in reply we were officially notified that that body had received and considered the same; and also had provided for a Convention to be called at this time and place, at which the aforesaid Commissioners were invited to be present.

This is to inform you that we are now here, and ready to confer with you, at such time as you may please to set, on the subject indicated in the resolution under which we were appointed.

Hoping for an issue favorable to the unity and prosperity of *our* common Methodism, and the increase of Christ's kingdom, and praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We are yours, fraternally,

GEO. F. PIERCE, *Chairm'n.*

3. The number of Bishops which our policy at present maintains and has maintained, makes the Presiding Eldership indispensable for the care of all the churches and a thorough and effective oversight of the whole work. We add, this is a question for legislation, and the General Conference, as now constituted, will doubtless represent the sense of the ministry and laity on the subject.

4. The Church as a whole has not favored this policy. Many wise and influential ministers and laymen among us do. At the late General Conference, the number of effective Bishops was increased by more than a hundred per cent., and not a few advocate the view you present. The tendency is, we believe, to the increase of Bishops.

5. We have no power to make such a stipulation. We doubt not that, in a General Conference of the united Church, a fair and even liberal course would be pursued. More, perhaps, would be gained, in this respect, by confidence than by contract.

6. Upon this point our Church is decided. Our executive system could not admit the proposed modification. It would, as we believe, embarrass the itinerancy, and deprive it of that promptness and efficiency requisite to meet the moral demands of our times and country. The proposed appeal of the itinerant Minister, from the appointing power, if he does not like the charge to which he is sent, would seem unequal, unless the same right be given to the people, if they did not like the preacher sent to them, and this would destroy the itinerancy. Moreover, the itinerant Minister is protected by our law, at the point you would guard. He can decline to go to his appointment, and throw himself upon the Conference, at its next session, to sustain him (see Discipline, page 120.) For any oppression, he has redress by complaint to the General Conference which is open to him, and to which the Bishop is amenable. While the whole legislative power was in the hands of itinerant ministers, they did not find it necessary to provide any other protection for themselves.

7. This can best be settled by the parties at interest. The General Conference has granted to the Baltimore and Virginia Conferences a discretionary power which may be used for the settlement.

8. No difficulty here. As we understand the system of the two Churches, there is no substantial difference.

9. While our Church has not found it expedient to restrict the Episcopal prerogative, at this point, by formal legislation, the usage is, and has been, not to transfer a minister from one Conference to another without his consent.

9. No minister to be transferred from one Conference to another without his own consent, and the consent of the Conference to which he is to be transferred.

10. Local preachers and ministers to be put upon a par with itinerant preachers and ministers in regard to qualifications for, and eligibility to orders.

11. Local ministers to be alike eligible with itinerant ministers to a seat in the General Conference.

12. Each Station, Circuit and Mission to be allowed one delegate in the Annual Conference; in the former to be elected by the male members, in the two latter by the Quarterly Conference.

13. No veto power to be conceded to the Bishops.

14. Incorporate in the Discipline the following, (article 8, section 5:) "The Ministry and Laymen shall deliberate in one body; but if, upon the final passage of any question, it be required by three members, the Ministers and Laymen shall vote separately, and the concurrence of a majority of both classes of representatives shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Conference." A similar regulation shall be observed in the Annual Conferences.

15. In the Annual Conference the Laity shall have the right to participate in all the business except such as relates to the trial of ministers and preachers.

RESPONSE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH:

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, May 11th, 1867.

To the Commission of the Methodist Protestant Church:

BRETHREN,—We have considered carefully the propositions presented by you last night, and reply to them in order, as follows:

1. The late General Conference, by a two-thirds vote, recommended a change in the name and style of our church that left off the word "South," in deference to those who were embarrassed by it, and because circumstances had, to a considerable extent, caused its history and significance to be lost sight of. The motion of the General Conference was submitted to the Annual Conferences which gave an aggregate of 1,168 votes in favor of concurrence and 409 against, lacking but little of the three-fourths vote upon which its passage was conditioned.

2. There would result inconvenience and inharmony of title from this, and, also incongruity; for lay representation having been conceded, the denial of which was the principal ground of your original protest, there remains nothing against which to protest, inasmuch as you accept Episcopacy.

(APPENDIX B.)

LETTER OF REV. JOHN SEXSMITH:

To the General Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church, sitting in Montgomery, Alabama:

MAY 7TH, 1867.

DEAR BRETHREN,—The Church being without a Board of Missions, it becomes my duty to report to the Convention, or General Conference, the condition of my present field of labor, which was some years since placed under the supervision of the Board of Missions, by the direction of the General Conference.

Shortly after the rise of the General Conference, which held its session in Lynchburg, Virginia, May, 1858, the Board of Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church, located at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, refused to act longer under the jurisdiction of the Church, and proceeded to organize a Board of Missions, under the direction of the Springfield Convention, taking with them all books, papers, and other property committed to their care, and inducing all the missionary fields of labor under their control, except Des Moines Mission, to take the same course.

Since that time Des Moines Mission has been thrown entirely upon her own resources. Being upon border territory, she has consequently suffered from the troubles of our common country; but still she has sustained her organization and accomplished something for the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Her membership are at present scattered over a considerable portion of Northeast Missouri and Southern Iowa, numbering about two hundred and fifty, in organized societies, and from fifty to one hundred who cannot be regularly reached by our present ministerial supply. There are two ministers in active itinerant labor, at an incompetent support, and four local ministers who render some assistance in filling the appointments on the Mission.

There are about thirty copies of the *Methodist Protestant* circulated within our bounds.

The Mission owns about ten thousand dollars worth of property, in houses of worship.

It will be evident to the General Convention that nothing very permanent can be accomplished in this section of country over so large a territory as our membership at present occupy, without a Conference District. The present ministerial membership are too weak to justify such an organization with reasonable hope of success. In the organization of new Conference Districts, one fact should be kept in view; that weak and inefficient men are not the proper persons to take charge of a work that is to tell upon the future character and interests of the Methodist Protestant Church. Unless the General Conference shall see fit in its wisdom to reorganize the

As it respects the Conference experience satisfies us that a large discretion must be allowed on this subject, in order to carry out the objects of an itinerant General Superintendency, and to meet the wants of a varied and extensive field.

10. We have no authority to meet this condition ; but do not hesitate to say that we approve it as a measure, and that the tendencies of the Church are in this direction.

11. The principle of their eligibility is recognized in our existing law, and provision made whereby a fair proportion of representatives may be secured. Any further extension of this provision may be safely left to the future legislation of the General Conference.

12. In addition to the foregoing, so far as it applies to this case, we submit, that in our church—and more, if the proposed union take place—the stations, circuits and missions would be so numerous as to render the Annual Conferences, which are executive bodies, cumbrous and unwieldy for business and of inconvenient size for accommodation.

13. This matter is beyond our control. Whether the power exists in the Episcopacy, or shall be conceded or limited, is a mooted question, and rests with the Church.

14. This provision, touching the General Conference, is in our law, save that it requires one-fifth of the members for a separation of the vote. Its application to the Annual Conference, would, in our opinion, for various reasons, be embarrassing without any compensating advantage.

15. This may with propriety and safety be left to a General Conference, composed equally of Ministers and Laymen.

GEORGE F. PIERCE.

H. N. McTYEIRE.

J. E. EVANS.

LEROY M. LEE.

North Illinois District. That Conference, it will be remembered, went with the seceders, yet we have no doubt but Methodist Protestantism may again prosper in parts of that territory. I think it would be well to attach the territory formerly belonging to the North Illinois District to the Illinois. With regard to changes in our Constitution and Discipline, our Conference has taken no action. I have conversed with a number of our brethren upon points that may be brought before the Convention. There appears to be a willingness to acquiesce in the wisdom and piety of the brethren who compose it. I have conversed freely with some of our brethren with regard to a union with the Episcopal Methodist Church. There are none of us fond of an Episcopacy as a third order, yet it is a general conclusion that it would be an advantage to our small and feeble district. I am confident that such a union would draw to us a number from the Methodist Episcopal Church. But may our Divine Master direct the Convention in this and all other matters to his own glory. If Christ be glorified, and sinners be saved, we have our desire.

Yours, in the gospel,

W. W. TIPTON,
President Illinois District.

(APPENDIX D.)

MAJORITY REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH ON CHURCH UNION.

To the Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church:

The undersigned, a majority of the Commission appointed to confer with the Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in relation to a corporate union between the two Churches, beg leave to report, that, duly impressed with the importance of the subject of their trust, they have given it the most serious, patient and prayerful consideration, and now submit the following paper as the result which they have reached:

The Convention has indicated, by its resolutions, welcoming the Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, among us, its willingness to unite on terms agreeable to both Churches. The Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, however, have not felt themselves authorized to offer such terms as we believe would be acceptable to all the members of our Church, and we do not feel authorized to modify, essentially, the conditions we have proposed. Therefore,

Resolved, That the whole subject be referred for final action to our General Annual Conference, and that the Presidents thereof be requested to announce the result to the Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, expressing the hope that the Conference may act in a unit.

Your Commission cannot conclude their report without expressing their highest appreciation of the pleasure afforded to them by their several interviews with their brother Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church,

Board of Missions, so as to give assistance in securing the proper persons to unite in the organization of a Mission Conference for this territory, and thus secure ultimate success, we may as well surrender it now as at some future time. Perhaps the supply of three ministers and one-half of their support, would lead to a successful result. Having been for so long a time connected with the Mission by the appointment of the General Conference, I beg in a most respectful manner to return the trust with which she has been pleased to honor me, and ask such certificate of discharge as will enable me to take my place in one of our Annual Conferences.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN SEXSMITH.

(APPENDIX C.)

LETTER OF REV. W. W. TIPTON, PRESIDENT ILLINOIS CONFERENCE:
FIELDON, ILLINOIS, April 22nd, 1867.

Methodist Protestant Church Convention, in session at Montgomery, Ala.:

DEAR BRETHREN,—Our Annual Conference at its session last September, voted against the calling of a Convention, as has been published in the *Methodist Protestant*, but it appears that a sufficient number of Conferences have voted in favor of a Convention. Through an oversight, conditional delegates were not elected by our Conference. In this we erred. As it is necessary that the Convention should have a knowledge of our condition, I have taken upon myself to address you. In the year 1859, the Constitution and Discipline of the Springfield Convention of 1858, was introduced into our Conference. There were present five ministers and two delegates, who opposed it, declaring their determination to remain under the Constitution and Discipline of 1830. The vote for the Springfield Constitution and Discipline being carried, those who opposed them quietly withdrew from the Conference room. In the evening of the same day they met and reorganized, and then adjourned to meet in the City of Quincy about two months after. At the Conference in Quincy there were present six ministers and three delegates. From that time to the present we have sustained our Conference organization, but it has been in much opposition and persecution. We have had fightings without and fears within, but out of all the Lord appears to deliver. We have lost considerably in our District from a lack of Ministers. From the time the seceders left us until the present, we have never been fully able to supply our work; yet in looking back we feel to "thank God and take courage." The seceders left us with six preachers—we now have eighteen. They left us about two hundred members—we now have about eight hundred. We now occupy principally the western half of the District, and if we had the preachers, could soon possess considerably of the eastern half. We have extended our work some little into what was formerly called the

JOURNAL

OF THE

Cent^h General Conference

OF THE

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH,

HELD IN

BALTIMORE, MD.

AT THE

EAST BALTIMORE STATION,

MAY, 1870.

BALTIMORE:
PRINTED BY SHERWOOD & CO.
N. W. COR. BALTIMORE AND GAY STS.

1870.

South. They have conducted themselves towards us with a kindness of manner, a christian candor, cordiality and confidence which, whatever may be the result of our official intercourse at this Convention, will give them a place in our hearts as brethren beloved in the Lord.

To place the Convention in possession of all that has occurred between the two Commissions, we submit the three several papers which accompany this report.

J. G. WHITFIELD, *Chairman.*
 F. L. B. SHAVER.
 S. B. SOUTHERLAND.
 B. F. DUGGAN.
 CHAS. W. BUTTON.
 L. J. COX, JR.
 G. J. CHERRY.
 F. H. M. HENDERSON.

MINORITY REPORT.

We, the subscribing Commissioners, appointed by the Convention to meet the Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and receive from them propositions looking to a union of the Methodist Protestant Church with said denomination, have performed that duty and with a sacred regard to the great cause of Christianity and of Methodism, ask to submit this a minority report:

That the conditions of union submitted by the venerable Commissioners of Methodist Episcopal Church have been considered carefully by us, and while we agree with the majority of the Commission that all the members of the Church will not be satisfied with them; yet, feeling convinced that a large majority will cheerfully accept these terms, which we regard as liberal, hopeful and indicative of an early affirmation of all the points of difference between them. Therefore, we cordially accept them and recommend to our Annual Conferences action in harmony with our acceptance.

P. T. GRAVES.
 JOHN BASS.
 A. A. HOUSTON,
 PETER LOPER.
 W. R. MONTGOMERY.
 P. H. NAPIER.

SECOND MINORITY REPORT.

The undersigned, a ministerial member of the Commission from the North Carolina District, and dissenting from a single feature of the majority report, submits the following:

That the point from which he dissents is the recommendation of the Committee to refer the question to the Annual Conference, the undersigned not agreeing to abide the decision of the Conferences, without the concurrence of at least a majority of the membership of the several Annual Conference Districts.

W. H. WILLS.

JOURNAL OF THE TENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE, Methodist Protestant Church.

On Friday, the 6th day of May, 1870, the tenth General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church commenced its sessions at the East Baltimore Station, in Baltimore, Maryland. At 9 o'clock, Rev. George Nestor was called, temporarily, to the chair, and he formally opened the Conference with appropriate religious services. G. J. Cherry was appointed temporary Secretary.

On motion of Dr. S. B. Southerland a Committee on Credentials and Constituent Conferences was appointed, consisting of Dr. S. B. Southerland, Rev. L. F. Cosby and J. W. Williamson.

On motion of Dr. J. J. Murray, a Committee on Pulpit Service, consisting of Rev. J. Thomas Murray, Drs. A. Webster and S. B. Southerland, was appointed.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills, Rev. C. F. Pickens, alternate, was admitted to a seat until the original panel is full.

On motion of Dr. L. W. Bates, a Committee on Rules of Order was appointed, consisting of Dr. L. W. Bates, Rev. W. H. Wills and W. M. Betts.

On motion of Dr. J. J. Murray, Saturday at 10 o'clock A. M., was named as the time for the election of officers.

On motion of Dr. E. J. Drinkhouse, it was resolved that the daily sessions of Conference begin at 9 o'clock A.M., and close at 1 P. M. This order was so modified as to authorize an afternoon session for the first day.

The Committee on Credentials made a partial report.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills, Committees on Journals, Boundaries, Judiciary, Executive, Literature, Means of Grace, Finance, Home and Foreign Missions, and Sabbath Schools were ordered, and Committees on Temperance and Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications added to the list. Conference then adjourned to meet at 3 P. M.

At the time appointed, Conference reassembled. On motion of Dr. J. J. Murray, Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock was set apart for the Convention on Book Concern and Periodical.

B. H. Richardson presented a paper on missions, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

On motion of Rev. H. C. Cushing, it was resolved, that the word "Baltimore" be inserted in brackets in the Preface to the Discipline, page 6, third line, after the word city.

tions shall be written and read to Conference by the mover, and then be read by the Secretary, before action is taken upon them by the Conference.

The following, offered by Dr. L. W. Bates, was referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools:

Insert as section 12, on page 48: "Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervisory authority over all the Sunday Schools belonging to the station, circuit or mission."

On page 68 add as section 12: "The Superintendent is a member of all Sunday School Societies and Teachers' Meetings belonging to his pastoral charge."

Dr. L. W. Bates offered the following, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

On page 53, 10th section, strike out "Deacon's" and substitute the word "Elder's," and strike out the word "two" and insert the word "three."

Strike out the 11th section.

In section 12th, strike out the words "Deacon's orders," and "Deacon's to."

Strike out the 14th section on page 54.

Strike out the form of ordaining Deacons from page 127 to 132.

Strike out the words "Steward" or "Stewards" wherever they may occur, and insert "Deacon" or Deacons."

Dr. J. J. Murray presented the following Order of Business, which was adopted:

1. Calling the Roll.
2. Reading and correction of the Minutes.
3. Reception and reference of Memorials and Communications.
4. Reception of Reports
5. Unfinished Business shall then be taken up and acted upon.
6. After the disposal of unfinished business, the Reports shall be taken up, in the order of presentation and acted upon.
7. Incidental Business.

The following Resolution, offered by Rev. C. F. Harris, was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

Resolved, That neither our Discipline nor the Holy Scriptures authorizes our ministers to solemnize the rites of matrimony between one or both the persons contemplating marriage, who have been divorced, except said divorce have been obtained upon Scriptural grounds.

The paper from Holston Conference, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The following proposition by Dr. Southerland, modifying the Rules of Order, was adopted:

Any member rising to address the Conference shall say: "Brother President." He shall then pause until he is recognized by the Chair, which shall be as follows: "The Representative from ——."

On motion of C. W. Button, Mr. George Percival was invited to a seat within the bar of the Conference.

The following paper, presented by Rev. W. H. Wills, was referred to the Executive Committee:

Amendments to Discipline. Page 35, section 2, in line 5, strike out "Quarterly Conference" and insert "Monthly Meeting." In 6th line, after "Church," add "or Class."

Page 35, under head of "Trial of Ministers, &c.," either strike out all of the Preliminary, or make it harmonize with section 6, page 72.

Page 46, section 6, and page 67, section 8, define whether "Baptisms" embrace as well adult as infant, or only the latter. If the former, change the form of Register, page 128.

On motion of Dr. Webster, the order for the election of officers was reconsidered, and Conference proceeded at once with the election, when Rev. J. G. Whitfield was elected President and G. J. Cherry and Rev. J. Thomas Murray were elected Secretaries.

Conference adjourned with prayer by Dr. A. C. Harris.

SECOND DAY.

On Saturday morning, May 7, Conference was opened with usual religious services, conducted by Rev. W. H. Wills. The reading of the minutes was deferred until Monday.

A letter from Rev. J. K. Dawson, of Des Moines Mission, was referred to the Committee on Missions. A letter from J. T. Pickens was also read.

The following paper from Yadkin Circuit, N. C., was referred to the Executive Committee:

Does the Discipline require a preacher to have his license annually before a quarterly meeting for renewal, and does the passage of his character in the absence of his license renew his license?

Resolved further, That the General Conference be requested to insert a blank form in the Discipline for deeds to Church property.

W. A. HUNTER, Secretary.

Jos. S. DUNN, Chairman.

The President announced the following Committees:

Journals—Revs. W. H. Wills, T. D. Valiant and W. M. Betts, and M. T. Peoples, Orestes Ames.

Boundaries—Revs. G. R. Barr, George Nestor, Dr. D. E. Reese, Dr. J. K. Nichols and J. P. Speight.

Judiciary—Dr. A. Webster, Rev. L. F. Cosby and J. B. McDaniel.

Executive—Rev. Drs. L. W. Bates and A. G. Grove, and C. W. Button.

Literature—Dr. S. B. Southerland, Rev. A. C. Harris and J. W. Hering.

Means of Grace—Revs. J. Clarke, and T. H. Pegram and Lewis Yarbrough.

Finance—Messrs. B. H. Richardson, J. G. Clarke, W. Harding.

Home and Foreign Missions—Revs. H. C. Cushing and J. W. Chandler, and J. W. Williamson.

Sabbath Schools—Dr. E. J. Drinkhouse, Rev. C. F. Harris and J. D. Cathell.

Temperance—Revs. G. H. McFaden and F. H. M. Henderson, C. E. Crenshaw.

Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications—Dr. J. J. Murray, Revs. A. W. Lineberry, Wm. Trogdon, John Burdine, J. Graham.

The following resolutions, by Rev. Wm. Trogdon, were referred to the Judiciary Committee:

Resolved, That the word "on" at the end of the first line in the regulations for the government of the Electoral College, page 61, with the following words "the first," and "Monday" be stricken out and that the word "during" be inserted instead thereof, so as to read "during the session."

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference to rebaptise is contrary to the Sacred Scriptures and our book of Discipline.

On motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, it was ordered that all resolu

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

Ministers—J. G. Whitfield, L. F. Cosby.*Laymen*—C. W. Button, Wm. Harding.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.

Minister—G. R. Barr.*Layman*—M. T. Peoples.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

Ministers—A. G. Grove, M. D., G. H. McFaden, L. L. Hill.*Laymen*—C. E. Crenshaw, Edmund Harrison, J. D. Houser.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Minister—M. F. Rosser, M. D.*Layman*—S. Oliver.

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

Minister—Wm. Trogdon.*Layman*—Dr. G. W. Simmons.

GEORGIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—F. H. M. Henderson.*Layman*—J. B. McDaniel.

SOUTH ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Minister—Everett C. G. Nickens.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

Minister—I. C. Wallace.*Layman*—Dr. Herring.

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—Joseph Watrous.*Layman*—James Vancamp.

CONFERENCES ENTITLED TO REPRESENTATION.

Maryland, Virginia, Alabama, Texas, South Carolina, Mississippi, West Tennessee, North Mississippi, North Arkansas, Holston, Arkansas, Des Moines, McCaine, Missouri, South Illinois, Western Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, Illinois, North Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, South Illinois, Pennsylvania.

Adjourned with benediction by Rev. J. G. Whitfield.

THIRD DAY.

On Monday morning, 9th inst., the opening religious services were conducted by Dr. S. B. Southerland.

A memorial from J. B. Manar, on behalf of the Grand Division of Sons of Temperance, was presented by Dr. Murray, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

The following resolution, by George Nestor, was adopted:

Page 47, in fourth line, section 7, put a period at the end of "Superintendent." Then add, "The Superintendent of the preceding year shall appoint the time for the first Quarterly Conference of the ensuing year, and it shall be the duty, &c."

The Conference accepted an invitation to attend a Love Feast on Sunday afternoon at West Baltimore Station. On motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, it was resolved that an appropriate sermon be preached and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered in the Conference room on Tuesday evening next.

The report of the Committee on Constituent Annual Conferences, and Credentials was adopted as follows:

List of the members of the Tenth General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

MARYLAND CONFERENCE.

Ministers—L. W. Bates, D. D., J. J. Murray, D. D., J. K. Nichols, D. D., A. Webster, D. D., S. B. Southerland, D. D., J. T. Murray, T. D. Valiant, D. E. Reese, D. D., H. C. Cushing, E. J. Drinkhouse, M. D., John Roberts.

Laymen—Gaven Spence, J. W. Hering, M. D., J. W. Thompson, Joseph Graham, John T. Dodd, Southey F. Miles, Ormond Hammond, Robert S. Griffith, John G. Clarke, Jonathan D. Cathell, Beale H. Richardson.

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

Ministers—John Clarke, George Nestor, J. G. Weaver, G. W. Barrett, Oliver Lowther, W. M. Betts.

Laymen—C. W. Newline, Samuel Engle, J. W. Williamson, Z. Kidwell, M. D., J. O. Hartley, Wm. Vandervort.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

Ministers—Wm. H. Wills, T. H. Pegram, C. A. Pickens, A. C. Harris, M. D., A. W. Lineberry, C. F. Harris, A. M. Lowe, John Paris.

Laymen—G. J. Cherry, J. M. Hancock, M. D., P. A. Cox, M. D., J. P. Speight, L. W. Batchelor, M. D., Dr. J. M. Odell, J. T. Pickens.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

Minister—John Burdine.

Layman—Lewis Yarbrough.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

Minister—Thomas Aaron.

Layman—W. F. Wallace.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. W. Chandler.

Layman—Wm. Collins.

ILLINOIS.

Minister—Wm. W. Tipton.

Layman—Orestes Ames.

CHURCH REGISTER.

No.	Names.	Probation.	RECEPTION.		No.	MINISTER'S NAME.	Manner of DISCONTINUANCE.	Date of DISCONTINUANCE.	REMARKS.
			Election	Certificate.					
1	James Brown	Jan. 1st, 1868	May 1st, 1868	.....	1	John Faithful	Deceased	Dec. 2d, 1870	In blessed hope.
2	Susan Brown	.....	.....	Jan. 1st, 1868	2	(Appt. Mar. 1867)	Removed	Jan. 1st, 1869	To Baltimore.
3	Peter Brown	Jan. 1st, 1868	.....	.....	3	.....	Discontinued	July 1st, 1868	Ceased to attend.
4	Polly Brown	Feb. 2d, 1868	Jan. 2d, 1868	.....	4	.....	By Certificate	Dec. 1st, 1870	Gone to Phila.
5	John Brown	Apr. 1st, 1868	Aug. 1st, 1868	.....	1	James Zealous	Expelled	Sept., 1870	Drunkard.
6	Mary Brown	Jun. 23d, 1868	Nov. 1st, 1868	.....	2	(Appt. Mar. 1868)	Dropped	Jan. 1st, 1870	By Quar. Conf.
7	Susan Brown	.....	Nov. 1st, 1868	Returned	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
8	Polly Brown (Jones)	.....	Returned	Dec. 1st, 1868	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
					0	E. Ernest	.....	.....	.....
					0	(Appt. Mar. 1869)	.....	.....	.....
					0	.....	.....	.....	.....

1. When a Name is received on probation enter the date under the word "Probation."
2. When a Probationer is elected to full membership enter the date under "Election."
3. When a Name is received by Certificate enter the date under "Certificate."
4. When a person discontinued by certificate, returns, enter the word "Returned" under "Election" and the date under "Certificate."
5. When a person discontinued by Removal returns without certificate, enter date under Probation and Election, and under Certificate enter the word "Returned."
6. When a woman's name is changed by marriage enter after her maiden name her name by marriage in brackets.
7. Let the numerals under "No," commence with the organization of the Church, and continue on with its history so as to show the total number of names received.
8. Let the second "No" represent the number received by each minister.
9. The word "Removed" signifies informal removal.
10. The word discontinued signifies not elected to full membership.
11. The word "dropped" signifies neglect of duty and ceasing to claim membership.
12. The perpendicular spaces represent one half the room they should occupy in the Register.
13. The Blanks under "Discontinuance," represent the number of members.

Resolved, That on page 140 of the Discipline the word "Western" be stricken out, and the word "West" be inserted, and that it be also stricken out of every line on that page, wherever it occurs, and the word "West" be inserted therein.

The following, by M. T. Peoples, referred to Committee on Boundaries:

Resolved, That so much of the North Carolina Annual Conference district as lies west of the Alleghany Mountains, be attached to, and become a part of Holston Conference district, M. P. Church.

The following resolution, by Rev. Wm. Trogdon, referred to the Judiciary Committee:

Page 34 under to Admission to Membership.

Resolved, Strike out the following, "Probationers shall be eligible to full membership after they shall have been on probation four months."

The following form of Church Register was referred to the Executive Committee:

With respect to a form of deed for the conveyance or holding of Church property, which question has been referred to them, the Committee report that it is inexpedient to submit any particular form, as the general provisions on pages 16 of the Constitution and 77 of the Discipline are sufficiently specific, and the deed should be drawn and authenticated in accordance with the laws and usages existing in the different States of the Union.

Respecting the paper submitted by Rev. W. H. Wills, asking that the words "Quarterly Conference," where they occur in the 5th line, Sec. 2d, page 35 of Discipline, be stricken out, and the words, "Monthly Meeting" be inserted, they report favorably. The Committee decline to recommend any change in the 6th line of the same section.

On the third item of the amendments proposed by Bro. Wills, the Committee recommend that the word "Child's," where it occurs in the form of register of baptism, on page 158 be eliminated.

Concerning the 4th item, the Committee submit that they perceive no good reason why any change should be made.

The Committee recommend the form for a Church Register presented by Rev. B. F. Benson, through Rev. H. C. Cushing, be adopted and inserted in the Discipline.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. W. BATES, *Chairman.*

Dr. Murray presented the following papers from the Commission appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and suggested that Rev. Drs. T. M. Eddy and John Lanahan be introduced to the Conference by the President.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church:

HONORED BRETHREN—The Rev. Thomas M. Eddy, D. D. and the Rev. John Lanahan, D. D. were deputed, by a Commission on Church Union appointed by the late General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to bear a fraternal letter to your body at your present session. These distinguished ministers of our Church will explain to you more fully than was practicable in the letter of the Commission, the wishes of our General Conference in the premises.

On behalf and by order of the Commission.

WILLIAM L. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

New York, May 4, 1870.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA., Nov. 24, 1869.

To the President and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church:

BRETHREN—By the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held in Chicago, May 18, 1868, the undersigned were appointed a Commission in behalf of said Church, "to treat with a similar Commission from any other Methodist Church" desirous of union with us.

We call your attention, beloved Brethren to this action to state our desire to meet such a Commission from your Church, and also that it will afford us great pleasure to lay before the General Conference any communication from you touching this important subject.

One in doctrine, sharing the historic memories of our common Methodism, may there not be, at least, a closer bond of union among the branches of our wide spread Family?

Any reply to this communication may be addressed to our Secretary, Rev. W. L. Harris, D. D., 805 Broadway, New York.

Earnestly desiring the "Peace of Jerusalem," we invoke the blessing of our Common Head upon you in your deliberations and upon the Churches and institutions you represent, and, soliciting your remembrance of us in your prayers,

We remain yours fraternally,

EDMUND S. JAMES,
MATTHEW SIMPSON,
DAVIS W. CLARK,
LUKE HITHCOCK,
JOHN MCCLINTOCK,
JOHN G. BRUCE,
JAMES PIKE,

LEVI SCOTT,
EDWARD R. AMES,
EDWARD THOMSON,
DANIEL CURRY,
JOHN LANAHAN,
THOMAS M. EDDY,
WILLIAM L. HARRIS,
Commissioners.

The following resolution, by Dr. L. W. Bates, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Credentials, &c., be and are hereby requested to report a list of Conferences, *pro* and *con.*, upon the question of a Convention as soon as possible.

Resolution, by Rev. A. W. Lineberry, referred to Committee on means of Grace:

Resolved, That the words "immersion, sprinkling, or pouring," in the third paragraph of instructions on Baptism, on page of the Discipline 115, be stricken out, and the words *mode in baptism*, be inserted in their stead.

The following resolution, by Dr. E. J. Drinkhouse, was laid on the table:

Resolved, As the sense of this General Conference that no annual Conference can be regarded as voting in the affirmative on the question of a Convention except those which have so resolved.

The following resolution, by J. W. Williamson, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries:

Resolved, That the West Virginia District be extended so as to embrace the original Muskingum district, in the State of Ohio.

Resolution, by Rev. H. C. Cushing, was referred to the Executive Committee:

Resolved, That the Discipline be amended, page 42, bottom line, by striking out the phrase "in stations, and one-sixth in circuits."

On motion of C. W. Button, a committee consisting of five was appointed to consider the communication from the Virginia Conference.

Conference adjourned with prayer by Rev. W. H. Wills.

FOURTH DAY.

On Tuesday morning, 10th instant, Conference was opened with religious services by Rev. H. C. Cushing.

The report on journals was presented by the Chairman, W. H. Wills, and, on motion, recommitted.

On motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, the hour of 10 o'clock, A. M., to-day, appointed for a Convention on the Book Concern and Periodical, was rescinded, and 10 o'clock on Wednesday was then set apart for the meeting of the Convention.

Dr. J. J. Murray, Chairman, presented the Report of the Committee on Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications, whereupon the hour of 11 A. M. to-day, was set apart for the introduction of the Fraternal Messengers.

The various items of the Report of the Executive Committee were adopted, as follows:

The Executive Committee beg leave to submit the following Report: First. Touching the question referred to them from the Yadkin Circuit (N. C. Conference.) "Does the Discipline require a Preacher to have his license annually before a quarterly meeting for renewal?" They report that the fact of renewal should be stated in the license and certified by the Chairman and Secretary. See Constitution, page 18; and Discipline, page 151.

Second: "Does the passage of his character, in the absence of his license, renew his license?" To this question they respond negatively, for the reason that the vote on official character refers to what is past, while the proposition to renew a license refers to the future.

SIXTH DAY.

Thursday, May 12. After religious services, conducted by Rev. C. F. Harris, the minutes were read and adopted, and the consideration of the subject, "Re-baptism," was resumed and was under discussion when the hour for the order of the day arrived, which order, on motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, was indefinitely postponed, and "Re-baptism" further considered, when Rev. W. M. Betts moved its indefinite postponement. The previous question was called for on this motion, and sustained, and the motion for an indefinite postponement lost. Conference adjourned with the benediction by Dr. Webster.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference was opened with religious services by Rev. C. F. Harris.

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with. The following resolution, by Dr. Bates, was adopted.

Whereas, The Rev. F. L. B. Shaver, was appointed one of the Fraternal Messengers to the General Conference of the M. E. Church South, now in session at Memphis, Tennessee, and as the said appointee is not now a minister of our Church, therefore,

Resolved, That Rev. J. K. Nichols, D. D., be appointed a Fraternal Messenger to the General Conference M. E. Church South to fill the above mentioned vacancy.

In accordance with the above, Rev. J. K. Nichols, D. D., was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The vote was then taken on the subject "Re-baptism," and decided in favor of the report of the Committee. The fourth item of the Judiciary report was, on motion, laid on the table, and the fifth item of the report adopted.

Dr. J. J. Murray, Chairman of the Committee on Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications, presented the following report:

The Committee to which was referred the communication from Bishops Janes, Scott, Simpson, Ames, Clark, Thomson, and other Commissioners appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church having had the same under consideration, beg leave respectfully to report, as the result of their deliberations, the following:

The honored Commissioners, having premised that we are "one in doctrine, sharing the historic memories of our common Methodism," ask: "May there not be, at least, a closer bond of union among the branches of our wide-spread family?"

Our reply to the question is this: We believe there may be; we are convinced there ought to be; and we are determined that, if our efforts can effect it, there shall be "a closer bond of union" among the several members of our common Methodist family. We should prove ourselves unworthy sons of our venerated fathers, be regardless of our obligations to our common Saviour (who prayed that all His disciples might be one) and evince that our protestations of attachment to His cause are mere sounding pretenses, if we were not willing and desirous to draw together in more affectionate union and more efficient co-operation all "who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity," and especially those between whom and ourselves there is so much in doctrine, historical associations, honored usages and blessed experience to draw us together.

It must have been a source of grief to those who had the cause of the Saviour at heart, in times past, that so much of bitterness and distrust existed among professing Christians who had so much in common, and who should have provoked

The Fraternal Messengers from the Methodist Church, Rev. Drs. G. Brown and William Collier, and Alexander Clark, A. M., were then introduced to the Conference by the President. They expressed the fraternal regards of the Church they represent, for the Methodist Protestant Church, and their earnest desire that the old ecclesiastical union might be restored.

Rev. Drs. T. M. Eddy, and John Lanahan of the Commission from the Methodist Episcopal General Conference, were then introduced by the President. They expressed brotherly regard for our Church, and the hope that there might be a closer bond of union between the different parts of the Methodist family.

The President, Rev. J. G. Whitfield, responded to the brethren of the respective delegations, reciprocating their fraternal sentiments, and assuring them that the subjects presented by them would receive the consideration their importance demanded.

On motion of J. P. Speight, the communication from the General Conference of M. E. Church, and the subject presented by the Fraternal Messengers from the Methodist Church were referred to the Committee on Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications.

The Report of the Committee on Ritual was taken up and considered by items. The first item being under consideration, on motion, the further consideration of the report was postponed until Thursday at 10 A. M.

On motion of Dr. Southerland, certain papers in his hand, were referred to the Committee on Missions, without reading.

The Report of the Judiciary Committee was taken up by items. The first and second items were adopted. Pending the consideration of the third item, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the President.

FIFTH DAY.

Wednesday, May 11th. Conference was opened this morning with religious services by Rev. C. A. Pickens.

The report of the Judiciary Committee was then taken up; and the third item, "re-baptism," was under discussion when the hour arrived for the Convention on the Book Concern and Periodical; and, on motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, the time was extended half an hour. At the expiration of which the Convention on Book Concern and Periodical was organized.

Conference resumed its session. The regular order of business was suspended; and, on motion of C. W. Button, the Conference agreed to have night sessions, after to-day, commencing at 8 o'clock P. M.

The President announced Revs. E. J. Drinkhouse, H. C. Cushing and W. H. Wills, and J. P. Speight and B. H. Richardson a special committee "on subject referred from the Virginia district," after which the Conference resumed the consideration of the subject of "Re-baptism."

Pending the discussion of this subject, the Conference adjourned with the benediction.

to secede from the Methodist Protestant Church, but simply to prevent the disruption of said Annual Conferences ; and whereas the Fraternal Messengers aforesaid have expressed kind sentiments of Christian regard for this body and the Churches it represents ; therefore

Be it resolved by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, That the fraternal visit of Rev. George Brown, D. D., Rev. Wm. Collier, D. D., and Rev. Alexander Clark, A. M., is highly appreciated, and their sentiments of Christian regard are fully reciprocated.

Resolved, That whenever the Conferences aforesaid shall see fit to rescind their act of suspension, and place themselves again under the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, they will be cordially received as co-laborers in the cause of Christ and constituent members of this body.

Resolved, That if the General Conference of the Methodist Church shall see fit to appoint commissioners to consider the subject of union between that Church and the Methodist Protestant Church, the President of this body is authorized, upon due notification of said appointment, to designate commissioners from this body to meet and confer with the commissioners of the Methodist Church on the subject aforesaid.

JOHN J. MURRAY,
Wm. TROGDON,

JOHN BURDINE,
JOSEPH GRAHAM.

Joseph Watrous, minister, and James Van Camp, layman, delegates from the Pennsylvania Conference, appeared and were admitted to seats in this body.

The report on Ritual was then taken up, and considered by items. The first item was adopted.

Leave of absence was granted J. W. Williamson and J. O. Hartley.

The second item of the report on ritual was taken up, and J. B. McDaniel moved the words "in an audible voice" be stricken out, which was discussed and the motion prevailed. The item was then adopted.

On motion, the Conference adjourned with the benediction by the President.

SEVENTH DAY.

Conference opened by Rev. Dr. D. E. Reese. Reports from the Committees on Boundaries, Executive and Constituent Conferences were read by the chairmen.

The report on Ritual was taken up and the first item in the order for the administration of the Lord's Supper adopted.

The second item of the same report was rejected.

Dr. J. W. Hering offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Whereas, We regard with peculiar favor the establishment of institutions of learning in connection with our Church ; and

Whereas, The "Western Maryland College," under the fostering care of the Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, presents a hopeful indication for good to the Church at large ; and

Whereas, It will be the pleasure of the General Conference during its present sitting to hear the Agent of the Maryland Annual Conference in behalf of said College ; therefore,

Resolved, That — be set apart for the purpose above named.

Adjourned with benediction by W. Trogdon.

one another to "love and good works" only. It is a cause of congratulation and devout thanksgiving now, that the tendency is to heal the wounds made by the former strife; to consider the things wherein we agree, rather than those wherein we differ; to seek for what is excellent, rather than what we esteem defective, in each other's organization and practice; to accord honor cheerfully where it is seen to be deserved, and to pray for each other's success in all legitimate efforts to promote the Kingdom of Christ our Saviour. Let us hope that the work, so auspiciously begun, will go on until our respective bodies, either as the constituent members of one grand ecclesiastical organization, or as fraternal, sympathetic and co-operative separate organizations, shall most effectually employ our varied means of usefulness for the destruction of sin and the promotion of holiness throughout the world.

As one step in the direction of this most desirable consummation, the committee would recommend the appointment (wherever it may be practicable) of Fraternal Messengers from the General and Annual Conferences of the various Methodist Churches, to convey the Christian salutations of the bodies they respectively represent, and thus promote that mutual acquaintance, confidence and brotherly love which are essential to more thorough and efficient co-operation.

Another step would be a recommendation to the editors of the periodicals published by the Churches respectively to avoid irritating controversy and the misrepresentation of each other's history, motives and conduct; a recommendation to the ministers to arrange their respective plans of appointment for ordinary and extraordinary religious services so as to avoid even the appearance of desiring to stand in each other's way; but on the contrary, whenever it is practicable, to render assistance in those labors of love which, if successful, must inure to the benefit of every Christian, inasmuch as souls are saved and God is glorified; and a recommendation, finally, to all the members of our respective Churches to think and speak charitably of the words and acts of each other, remembering the precept of our Lord and Saviour, "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

A third step would be co-operation in the great work of sending the Gospel to the heathen. Why may not one foreign missionary organization serve for all Methodism? Why should we go among the heathen to distract them with our various polities—neither of which may be adapted in all respects to the heathen—when the great want of the perishing is Christ and His salvation? The committee is not prepared at this time to suggest a plan for carrying out the idea, but let it once receive the favorable consideration of the Churches, and the wisdom of the Churches will devise all the details for its successful prosecution.

In furtherance of these suggestions, the committee recommend that — and — be appointed Fraternal Messengers to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

They further recommend that a copy of these proceedings, duly signed by the President and attested by the Secretaries, be forwarded to the Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be by them laid before the General Conference of said Church at its next session.

They would also recommend that this Conference express to its sister body our sincere condolence in the great loss they have sustained in the death of two of their chief officers, who were also members of their Commission; and that uniting with them in prayer for the "Peace of Jerusalem," and "invoking the blessing of our common Head upon them in their future deliberations," and "upon the Churches they represent," we also pray that their affliction may be sanctified to them and to the whole body of Christ.

JOHN J. MURRAY,
W. M. TROGDON,
JOSEPH GRAHAM;

JOHN BURDINE,
A. W. LINEBERRY.

Whereas, The Pittsburg Conference of the Methodist Church, actuated by the desire to promote the union of the two bodies formerly constituting the Methodist Protestant Church, did send as Fraternal Messengers to this body Rev. George Brown, D. D., Rev. William Collier, D. D., and Rev. Alexander Clark, A. M.; and whereas said Messengers have expressed the desire of the body they represent and of several other Annual Conferences of the Methodist Church for reunion, asserting, at the same time, that the intention of these and other Conferences acting with them in what they define as an act of "suspension," was not

EIGHTH DAY.

Conference was opened by Rev. G. H. McFaden.

The unfinished business was suspended, and on motion of Rev. J. T. Murray the question concerning the Missouri Annual Conference was referred to a special committee.

At this stage of the proceedings, Rev. Drs. Brown and Collier were afforded an opportunity to make a parting address to the Conference. Their kind fraternal sentiments were cordially reciprocated by the President, in behalf of the Conference.

The item of the Ritual Report, relating to the Lord's Supper, was taken up. Dr. Batchelor moved to strike out of the Report all after the sixth item, which was adopted.

On motion of Dr. Murray, the action adopting the form of prayer in the Ritual, was reconsidered. Dr. Murray moved to insert the confession in the prayer, as in the old Ritual; adopted.

Bro. B. H. Richardson submitted the following resolution on the Administration of the Lord's Supper:

In order to secure a more uniform and respectful observance of the Lord's Supper, it is earnestly recommended that in all our Churches there shall be suitable vessels for use in the administration of this ordinance, selected by the Stewards or other officers, which shall be used for this purpose only.

As amended it was adopted.

Resolutions offered by C. E. Crenshaw and Rev. J. Paris, concerning the elements used in the sacrament, were lost.

The form for the reception of probationers in the *Ritual* was then taken up, amended and adopted.

The form for reception into full membership was amended and adopted.

On motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, the Committee on Boundaries was instructed to report the statistics of the various Annual Conferences, so far as they can be obtained.

Adjourned with benediction by Rev. J. T. Murray.

There was no evening session to-day.

NINTH DAY.

Conference was opened with religious exercises, conducted by Rev. J. W. Chandler.

Rev. T. H. Pegram offered the following resolution which was lost:

Resolved, That this General Conference do adjourn *sine die*, on Wednesday next at 1 o'clock, P. M.

On motion of C. W. Button, the rules of order were amended, and speaking on any subject limited to one speech of ten minutes length.

On motion of Dr. Southerland, the residue of the Report on Ritual was laid on the table for the purpose of taking up the Report on Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications. The part relating to the Commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, was taken up and adopted.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met at the hour appointed, the President in the chair. Religious services by Rev. G. R. Barr.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Wills, the regular business was suspended, and the recognition of the Missouri Annual Conference discussed, when, on motion of Dr. S. B. Southerland, the subject was postponed until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Rev. J. T. Murray offered the following resolution, which was under discussion when the hour set apart arrived for hearing the Agent, Rev. P. L. Wilson, in behalf of the Western Maryland College:

Resolved, That no Conference not recognized in official connexion with the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and entered upon the journal as a constituent Annual Conference, shall be entitled to representation in the next General Conference or Convention until that Conference or Convention shall declare it entitled to representation; and that no action of such Annual Conference in anticipation of recognition, shall determine any matter of interest between the now recognized Annual Conferences.

Bro. Wilson addressed the Conference, presenting the various claims of the college to its consideration.

Dr. E. J. Drinkhouse offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the matter of the Western Maryland College be referred to the Committee on Literature, to report such action as they may deem expedient as a recognition of this and other institutions of learning under the patronage of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The resolution offered by Rev. J. T. Murray was lost.

On motion of C. W. Button the rules of order were suspended, and the time limited to five minutes, without extension, in the discussion of the *Ritual*.

The order for administration of the Lord's Supper was taken up.

The amendment to the third item, by Rev. Dr. Nichols, was lost, and the item adopted.

The fourth item, as amended, on motion of Rev. T. H. Pegram, was adopted.

The fifth and sixth items were adopted.

Seventh Item. Rev. Dr. Rosser moved that the words "shall not speak together," be stricken out.

Rev. W. Trogdon moved to strike out all of the seventh item, which motion was lost.

Rev. J. Roberts moved to lay the remainder of the report on the table.

Pending the consideration of this motion, Conference adjourned, with benediction by Dr. Murray.

TENTH DAY.

Conference opened by Dr. E. J. Drinkhouse.

Dr. J. J. Murray and Rev. J. G. Whitfield and Hon. George Vickers were appointed Fraternal Messengers to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. J. T. Murray moved that Fraternal Messengers be appointed to the next General Conference of the Methodist Church. The following were appointed: Dr. L. W. Bates, Rev. J. T. Murray, and G. J. Cherry and C. W. Button.

The Marriage Ceremony was taken up. The motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, that the old and new ceremonies be retained in the book, was lost. The motion of Dr. A. C. Harris to continue the old ceremony and leave the use of the new discretionary, and to exclude the latter from the Discipline was under consideration, when C. E. Crenshaw moved a re-consideration of the vote against inserting both ceremonies in the book, which motion prevailed. It was then decided that both ceremonies be inserted in the Discipline.

The item reported on the "*Burial of the Dead*" was adopted.

The consideration of the *Ritual* was suspended to hear the following report from the Committee on the Virginia District—which report, on motion, was adopted:

Whereas, From information derived from the published proceedings of the last Annual Conference of the Virginia district, and the verbal communications of her representatives in this General Conference, it appears that said Virginia Conference adopted a series of resolutions setting forth their acceptance of an assurance from the presiding Bishop and his Board of Elders of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of the Virginia Conference, that a corporate union of their respective churches in Virginia would be approved; and

Whereas, The Virginia Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church did resolve to memorialize this General Conference to enter upon negotiations with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, with a view to a corporate union on the basis proposed by Bishop Pierce, etc., at the Montgomery Convention, and that, in default of such negotiations, they will feel at liberty to inaugurate separate Conference action upon the subject; and

Whereas, The Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church did, at its last session, pass a series of resolutions, the third and fourth of which read as follows: "That our representatives to the General Conference in May, 1870, be and are hereby requested to prevent as far as possible the work of disintegration in that (the Virginia) Conference," and "that we confer upon our representatives full power in the premises to spread over them the wings of this (the Maryland) Conference, if need be, to preserve them to our beloved Zion;" therefore, be it

1st. *Resolved*, That this General Conference sincerely regret the action of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and will as sincerely deplore the extinction or disintegration of this old and honored Conference.

2d. *Resolved*, That we extend to our brethren of Virginia our warmest sympathy in their distressed and straitened condition, and earnestly appeal to them to preserve their Conference integrity and ecclesiastical relation to this body.

3d. *Resolved*, That if, at their ensuing Annual Conference, they shall find self-preservation no longer possible, in this event the Presidents of the Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina Conferences are hereby authorized to distribute the territory, with its ministers, membership and church property in their present relations, in such manner as may be agreeable and convenient, so as to extend the boundaries of the adjacent Conferences over said territory, by and with the consent of the Virginia Conference.

The report in reference to the Methodist Church was taken up and considered by items. The preamble and first resolution were adopted. The second resolution was then amended and adopted. The third resolution was rejected.

The report as amended was adopted.

The President announced as Special Committee on the Missouri Conference, Revs. A. Webster, J. Clarke, J. Paris, J. G. Weaver and Dr. J. W. Hering.

The report of the Committee on Convention was taken up and was under discussion when Dr. Southerland offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in determining the question of a Convention, such Conferences alone as were recognized by the Montgomery Convention shall be counted.

Dr. Batchelor moved that the question, what Conferences were in connection with the Church at the Montgomery Convention, be referred to the Committee on the Missouri Conference, which motion was lost.

The report on Convention was under discussion, when, on motion, the Conference adjourned with the benediction by Dr. Webster.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference was opened with religious services by Rev. J. Paris.

The report of the Committee on Boundaries was taken up.

The Rev. W. H. Wills offered an amendment to make the boundaries of the North Carolina District embrace the State of North Carolina, which amendment prevailed, and the report, as amended, was adopted.

The report on Convention was called up, and Dr. Batchelor moved an indefinite postponement, which was withdrawn. The report on Convention, by permission, was withdrawn by the Chairman for the purpose of reporting the vote of the Conferences recognized at Montgomery, on the question of a Convention.

Dr. Webster, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Missouri Conference reported in favor of recognizing Missouri as a constituent member of this General Conference. The report was adopted.

The report on Ritual item "Baptism" was taken up and considered by items.

Rev. J. G. Whitfield moved that the words "Grant, O Lord, that this child may die unto sin" be stricken out of the ceremony. The mover subsequently withdrew his motion. This item of the report was then adopted.

The Marriage Ceremony was then taken up and amended. Rev. J. Paris moved this part of the report be laid on the table. Pending this, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the President.

lution offered by Dr. Southerland, determining what Conferences should decide the call of a Convention. Adopted.

Dr. Rosser moved an amendment to this resolution, which amendment is as follows:

Resolved, That in determining the question of a Convention, such Conferences as were recognized by the Convention at Montgomery as existing, and such as were recognized by that Convention as problematically existing, and have since been ascertained to have a real existence, alone shall be counted.

The amendment was subsequently withdrawn.

Dr. Southerland offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That such Conferences only as were recognized by the Montgomery Convention as having an existence, and have maintained such existence, be counted.

Dr. Harris offered an amendment to include West Virginia.

Dr. Hering moved that the resolution be laid on the table.

Pending which the Conference adjourned with the benediction by Dr. A. C. Harris.

EVENING SESSION.

Religious services were conducted by Rev. Thos. Aaron.

The Ritual was taken up, and the item "ordination of deacons," amended and adopted.

The following, offered by Rev. J. T. Murray, was adopted:

"It is recommended to the Annual Conferences that the person ordained to the office of Elder be presented with a copy of the Holy Scriptures at the time of his ordination, containing the inscription:

"Presented to _____ by _____ Conference, on his ordination to the office of Elder in the Church of Christ.

_____, President."

On motion the Ritual, as amended, was adopted as a whole. The Report, as adopted, is as follows:

RITUAL REPORT.

To the General Conference, Methodist Protestant Church:

BRETHREN:—The Committee on Ritual, appointed by the General Convention of 1867, beg leave to submit, as the result of their labors, the following Church Ceremonials.

In behalf of the Committee,

S. B. SOUTHERLAND, *Chairman.*

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Page 97. Second sentence to read thus:

After sermon, prayer; then another hymn, with its appropriate doxology, and the congregation dismissed with the following apostolical benediction:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

Third paragraph. Instead of "it is further recommended," &c., insert: The Lord's prayer shall be repeated at the close of the first morning prayer; and the congregation is earnestly exhorted to join the minister, in repeating the same.

ORDER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

"On the day appointed," &c., p. 99, to "Gal. vi: 10," p. 100. Then the Ten Commandments may be repeated in concert by the minister and people:

[The repeating of the Commandments and Beatitudes to be observed or not at the election of the Minister and people.]

4th. *Resolved*, That in default of such official consent, we endow the aforesaid Conference Presidents with discretionary powers in the premises, subject to the approval of their respective Conferences.

E. J. DRINKHOUSE,
H. C. CUSHING,
W. H. WILLS,
J. P. SPEIGHT,
B. H. RICHARDSON.

To-morrow, 10 A. M., was set apart for the reception of the Fraternal Messengers of the M. E. Church South.

On motion of C. W. Button, Lynchburg, Va., was selected as the place for holding the next General Conference.

Dr. Southerland presented the following report on Convention:

Report of Committee, in the matter of the vote of Annual Conferences on Convention.

The Conferences recognized by the Montgomery Convention are the following: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, West Tennessee, Mississippi, North Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois and West Virginia.

In submitting these, the Montgomery Convention Committee added this remark: "We may also include Platte, although your Committee know nothing personally or by testimony of said Conference."

To the above remark, concerning Platte Conference, the Committee of this General Conference add, *we* knew nothing personally or by testimony of any such Conference. It is mentioned in the Discipline, but, we presume, through mistake, inasmuch as there seems to be no testimony, of any kind, that there is a Platte Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The Committee, therefore, omit Platte in the count.

The other Conferences recognized by the Montgomery Convention, and now known to exist, voted as follows:

For a Convention—South Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana, Illinois, West Tennessee, Mississippi, North Mississippi—11.

Against a Convention—West Virginia. *Not Voting*—Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia. *Not heard from*—Missouri—5.

The Committee therefore offer this resolution:

Resolved, That this General Conference is clothed with Conventional powers.
Respectfully submitted,

S. B. SOUTHERLAND, *Chairman*.

Dr. Webster moved to amend the Report by adding the Platte District.

The yeas and nays were called for, and the amendment adopted:

*Yea*s.—A. Webster, E. J. Drinkhouse, J. Clarke, George Nestor, J. G. Weaver, Oliver Lowther, W. M. Betts, W. H. Wills, C. A. Pickens, A. C. Harris, C. F. Harris, J. Paris, John Burdine, J. W. Chandler, L. F. Cosby, G. R. Barr, Wm. Trogdon, E. C. G. Nickens, Joseph Watrous, J. W. Hering, J. D. Cathell, Samuel Engle, G. J. Cherry, P. A. Cox, J. P. Speight, M. T. Peoples, James Van Camp—27.

*Nay*s.—L. W. Bates, J. J. Murray, J. K. Nichols, S. B. Southerland, J. T. Murray, T. D. Valiant, D. E. Reese, H. C. Cushing, J. Roberts, T. H. Pegram, Thomas Aaron, J. G. Whitfield, G. H. McFaden, M. T. Rosser, Gaven Spence, John G. Clarke, Dr. Batchelor, C. W. Button, C. Crenshaw, J. B. McDaniel, F. H. M. Henderson—21.

M. T. Peoples moved a reconsideration. W. H. Wills, moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table. The previous question was called, and the motion to lie on the table was lost.

A motion was made for a reconsideration of the vote adding the Platte District, which motion prevailed.

Dr. Rosser moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday on the reso-

grace to keep all Thy commandments, and show forth the Lord's death till He come. And, finally, be brought, with all the Israel of God, to inherit eternal life, through the merits and mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The officiating Minister or Ministers may now partake, after which, still kneeling, he or they and the people shall repeat :

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Here the Minister or Ministers shall arise and the officiating Minister shall repeat :

Surely, He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Then the following invitation shall be given :

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, &c., (page 103.)

The remaining part of the order as in the Discipline, from the invitation to the close to be continued in use.

FORM FOR THE RECEPTION OF PROBATIONERS.

At the time appointed for the reception of probationers, the minister or preacher in charge shall announce the 1st and 2d verse of hymn 204, beginning

"People of the living God,"

and invite the candidates for membership to come forward and arrange themselves in front of the minister, during the singing.

Having taken the names of the candidates, and announced them to the congregation, asking as each name is called out, "Is there any objection to —!" If no objection be alleged he shall then address the candidates thus:

Dearly beloved, have you a desire to flee the wrath to come, and be saved by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer: I have.

Minister: Is it your determination to walk in all the commandments of God blameless?

Answer: I will faithfully endeavor to do so.

Minister: Confiding in the sincerity of your declaration, and sympathizing with you in your avowed desire and purpose, we admit you to the spiritual privileges of this Church. In so doing, we exhort you to make diligent use of all the means of grace, in humble dependence upon God, without whom you can do nothing, for the promised aid of His Holy Spirit, that you may "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." Especially, do we urge upon you to "search the Scriptures;" be frequent in private prayer and meditation; seek the society of the pious, avoid that of the ungodly; and, according to your ability, "do good unto all men, and especially unto them that are of the household of faith."

At the expiration of the period of probation determined by the Discipline of the Church, you will be eligible to membership with all its rights and privileges: and then, if your life shall be found conformable to the Gospel, it will be our duty and pleasure to give you assurance of our continued love and confidence by a public recognition and reception. In the meantime, we commend you to God, who is able to keep you from falling, and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.

FORM OF RECEPTION INTO FULL MEMBERSHIP.

The officiating minister, shall say:

This Church is now ready to receive into full membership those who have served their probation acceptably. The candidates will now approach.

As the approach is made, the Church will sing: (205th or some other hymn.)

Come in, thou blessed of the Lord,
Enter in Jesus' precious name;
We welcome thee with one accord,
And trust the Saviour does the same.

I am the Lord thy God : thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them ; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me ; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain ; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his Name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work ; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any work : thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.

Or the Beatitudes, thus :

Blessed are the poor in spirit : for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn : for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek : for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness : for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful : for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart : for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers : for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake : for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you, falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad : for great is your reward in heaven : for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Then, the officiating Minister or Ministers shall repair to the table, &c. (p. 100.)

Let us Pray.

Almighty, and most merciful God, we do not presume to approach this Thy table, trusting in our own righteousness, but in the blood and righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are not worthy, O Lord, to gather up the crumbs from under Thy table, for we have sinned and come short of Thy glory ; we have erred and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep ; we have left undone those things which we ought to have done ; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Have mercy on us, O God, our heavenly Father, forgive our sins, and restore unto us the joy of Thy salvation, through Jesus Christ who hath redeemed us by His own most precious blood.

Grant unto us, O our heavenly Father, the effectual assistance of Thy holy Spirit, that, while we partake of these Thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour's holy institution, in grateful remembrance of His death and passion, that our hearts may be penetrated with unfeigned love and gratitude for the unspeakable gift of Thy Son, in the redemption and salvation of our souls. May we be melted into tenderness on account of the great love wherewith Christ hath loved us, and given Himself for us. May we ever remember His agony and bloody sweat in the garden of Gethsemane ; His cruel mockings and scourgings in Pilate's hall ; and His ignominious death on the cross.

May we have redemption through His blood which was shed for the remission of our sins ; and being justified by faith in Him, may be filled with love, have

MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

At the time appointed for solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married, standing together, the man on the right hand, and the woman on his left, the Minister shall say :

Dearly beloved : We are gathered together here in the sight of God, and this company, to join together this Man and this Woman in holy Matrimony ; which is commended of St. Paul to be honorable among all men : and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly ; but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God. Into this holy estate these two persons present come to be joined. If any man can show just cause, why they may not be lawfully joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

The Minister shall then address himself to the persons about to be married, and say :

I require and charge you both, as ye will answer at the dreadful day of judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, that if either of you know any impediment, why ye may not be lawfully joined together in Matrimony, ye do now confess it. For be ye well assured, that if any persons are joined together otherwise than as God's Word doth allow, their marriage is not lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, the Minister shall say unto the man :

Wilt thou have this Woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony ? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor, and keep her in sickness and in health ; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live ?

The Man shall answer :

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman :

Wilt thou have this Man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony ? Wilt thou obey, love, honor, and keep him in sickness and in health ; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live ?

The Woman shall answer :

I will.

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE RING.

If the parties desire the ceremony of the ring, the Minister shall now receive the ring from the hand of the Man, and say to him :

You will now place this ring on the fourth finger of the left hand of your bride, to remain as a perpetual memorial of the holy covenant into which you have both entered, and of the solemn pledges which you have each made to the other, in the presence of Him who hath said : " And they twain shall be one flesh."

Or he shall direct the Man to place the ring as aforesaid, and repeat after him the following words :

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Minister shall then say :

Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life : Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy Name ; that as Isaac and Rebecca lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to Thy laws ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Minister shall then say :

Please join your right hands.

The Minister shall then say :

Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Those joys which earth cannot afford,
We'll seek in fellowship to prove,
Joined in one Spirit to our Lord,
Together bound by mutual love.

And while we pass this vale of tears,
We'll make our joys and sorrows known,
We'll share each other's hopes and fears,
And count a brother's cares our own.

The minister shall then say :

Dearly beloved : You have been duly elected, by the proper authorities, to full membership in this Chnrch, and we are here to give you formal admission.

To us all, the occasion is well calculated to be deeply impressive ; to you, especially, it should be one of the most thoughtful and serious of all your life. We are receiving you to a full participation with us in the sacred enjoyments and responsibilities of the Church of Christ. You are formally entering upon engagements that relate to the eternal world. We are giving you, as a Christian, our confidence, and also in the profession you now make of being in full accord with us, as a distinct branch of the general Church which its great Head hath bought with His precious blood. You are assuming obligations which can only be fulfilled by a life of unswerving fidelity to Christ and His people.

By this act, you, more than ever, declare your separation from the pomps and vanities of this world, and your purpose of entire consecration—soul, body, time, talents, and substance—to the service of the one True and Living God.

Moreover, you stand here, to-day, covenanting with this Church : to seek its peace and prosperity ; to live in love and fellowship with its ministry and membership ; to attend its means of grace ; and, according to your pecuniary ability, to contribute to its support.

Do you assent to all this ? Answer : I do.

We, therefore, now covenant with you to seek your welfare and happiness ; to aid you, by our sympathies, counsels and prayers ; and, in all respects, to regard you as our *brethren*.

The final verse of the 205th hymn shall then be sung :

Once more our welcome we repeat,
Receive assurance of our love :
O may we all together meet
Around the throne of God above.

(or some other verse may be selected.)

The minister shall then give the right hand to each of the new members saying :

In the name and by the authority of the Methodist Protestant Church, I receive you into its fellowship and welcome you to its privileges. And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen.

BAPTISM.

Page 110. For "Beloved friends," substitute "Dearly beloved."

Page 113. After "I baptize thee," &c., insert the following :

The Minister shall now address the parents and say :

Dearly beloved : Your *child* has now, by solemn dedication and the holy office of baptism, been duly initiated, as a member of the Church of Christ. You have acknowledged your duty in regard to rearing *it* in a Christian manner, and thereto added your solemn vow. It now remains for us to exhort you to fidelity in the performance of your duty, and to assure you that the blessing of God, who hath said, "I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring," will rest upon you and your *child* while you continue in the faithful performance of your covenant obligation.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen.

Page 114. At the end of each paragraph in the prayer, add, *Amen*.

ORDINATION OF DEACONS.

Page 127.

On the day appointed for the ordination, if practicable, an appropriate sermon shall be delivered. After which the Secretary of the Annual Conference, if present—and, if not, an Elder selected by the President—shall announce the names of those to be ordained Deacons, who shall, respectively, present themselves before the President and the assisting Elders. Then the Secretary, or his substitute, shall say :

President: These brethren have been duly elected by the — Annual Conference, to the Order of Deacon in the Church of God, and I now present them to you for ordination.

One of the Elders shall then read the following passages : &c. pages 128—132.

ORDINATION OF ELDERS.

Page 132.

On the day of ordination, if practicable, an appropriate sermon shall be preached. After which, the Secretary of the Annual Conference, if present—and if not, an Elder selected by the President—shall announce the names of those to be ordained Elders, who shall, respectively, present themselves before the President and the assisting Elders. Then the Secretary, or his substitute, shall say :

President: These brethren have been duly elected by the — Annual Conference to the Order of Elder, in the Church of God, and I now present them to you for ordination.

One of the Elders shall then read the following passages of Holy Writ : &c. pages 132—138.

On motion, the adoption of the Report on Ritual was reconsidered, and Rev. G. R. Barr offered an explanatory note, to be printed with the order for Administration of the Lord's Supper, which was adopted.

Rev. T. H. Pegram offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to our friends of the city who have so kindly entertained us during the session of this General Conference.

The regular business was taken up and the amendment of Dr. Harris, to include West Virginia District in the list of constituent Annual Conferences, adopted.

The resolution of Dr. Southerland, as amended by Dr. Harris, was adopted.

Dr. Webster moved to strike out of the Report, the North Mississippi Conference. Motion was lost.

Dr. Webster moved that the Platte District be added; lost.

The report on Convention was then taken up and amended.

The item declaring the Conference to be clothed with conventional powers being under consideration, the Chair ruled that this Conference is clothed with conventional powers. An appeal was made from the decision of the Chair, and sustained.

Leaves of absence were granted Bros. McDaniel and Henderson for the balance of the session.

On motion of Dr. Webster, the Conference adjourned with the benediction by Rev. J. Paris.

Forasmuch as A. and B. have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth, each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands: I pronounce that they are Husband and Wife, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Minister shall then add this Blessing:

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

Page 122.

When the corpse is approaching the grave, the Minister, going before, shall repeat one or more of the following passages:

"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;" &c., including 123 and 124, to "But thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Arrived at the grave, and the corpse deposited, the Minister shall continue:

In the midst of life, we are in death; we come up and are cut down like a flower; we flee as a shadow, and never continue in one stay.

The hour is coming, in which all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and shall come forth: they that have done good, to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Forasmuch, as it hath pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased *brother*, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general Resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ: at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead: and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed, and made like unto His own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself.

Strike out the *italics* at foot of p. 126; also the quotations on p. 127.

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, in whose hands are the issues of life and death; and before whose bar we shall stand, and give an account of the deeds done in the body; we beseech thee grant unto us, at all times, a salutary conviction of the frailty of life, and our great responsibility to thee, the Judge of quick and dead. Amen.

We humbly confess, O righteous Father, that we have sinned, and come short of thy glory. We have been undutiful children; slothful servants; and unfaithful stewards of the manifold mercies of God. Be merciful, O Lord, to our unrighteousness, pardon our sins, and raise us from a death of sin to a life of righteousness, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

We beseech thee, Father of all our mercies, and giver of every good and perfect gift, to grant us grace whereby we may serve thee acceptably, with reverence and godly fear, all our days; looking for the blessed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, to judge the world in righteousness. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, grant that this dispensation of thy righteous providence may be sanctified to the good of all present. May we take due warning, and consider the shortness and uncertainty of human life; the solemnities of death, and the awful realities of eternity; and prepare to meet thee in the judgment. Amen.

May the relatives of the deceased not sorrow as those who have no hope, but have grace to submit to Thy righteous will, and be fully prepared to say: The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

THE BENEDICTION.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen.

(Strike out on page 126 "When the corpse is deposited in the grave," &c. and all that follows on page 127.)

After explanations by sundry brethren in reference to their votes, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference assembled and was opened with religious services by Rev. T. H. Pegram.

Adjourned for the holding of the Convention on Book Concern and Periodical.

Conference resumed its session, and Rev. T. D. Valiant presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a Committee on Revision be appointed to revise the Discipline, so as to make it conform to the action of this General Conference.

Rev. J. T. Murray presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on the Revision of the Discipline be instructed to make the list of Annual Conferences, printed in the Discipline, correspond with the list of Constituent Annual Conferences recognized by this General Conference.

Various items of the Committee on Boundaries were adopted.

Pending the consideration of this report, on motion of Dr. Batchelor, Colorado District was added to the list of Conferences.

On motion of Dr. Webster, McCain district was added to the list of Conferences. The boundaries of Colorado and McCain to be adjusted by the two Conferences,—said Conferences to possess all the State of Texas, except the part now included in the Texas District.

The whole report, as amended, was adopted.

The *Indiana Conference* was recognized as recommended by the Committee in a subsequent report.

The item of the Judiciary Committee's report abolishing the office of Deacon was under discussion, when, on motion of Dr. Batchelor, it was laid on the table. The Report, as adopted, is as follows :

1. The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report in part, that with reference to the Resolution marked No. 7, they recommend the insertion, on page 116, after the heading "Marriage Ceremony," the following Rubric, viz : No Minister of this Church shall celebrate Matrimony contrary to our Lord's decision at Matth. xix., 9.

2. The proposition to modify the regulation concerning the Electoral College, in the Resolution marked No. 2, your Committee cannot approve, in view of the convenience of the existing rule, to the Unstationed Ministers.

3. In the matter of the Resolution, No. 3, we recommend to insert, p. 113, after the 5th P, as follows: "This Church disapproves of Rebaptism."

4. We report favorably on paper No. 15, as it proposes to commit the matter of the duration of the probationary relation to the discretion of the Churches.

Respectfully submitted,

A. WEBSTER,
L. F. COSBY,
J. B. McDANIEL.

Rev. C. F. Harris, presented the following resolutions on Convention :

Resolved, That this General Conference does hereby recommend to the Annual Conferences the call of a General Convention, to be held in the city of Lynchburg, Va., on — —, for the special purpose of considering the following alterations in the Constitution, to wit :

ELEVENTH DAY.

Conference was opened by Dr. J. J. Murray. Mr. T. Peoples was excused from attendance after to-day. Also J. D. Cathell, W. W. Betts, Samuel Engle and Rev. John Paris.

Revs. L. W. Bates and J. G. Whitfield were released from their appointments as Fraternal Messengers.

The chairman of the Committee on Statistics presented his report, but it being incomplete, the Committee were permitted to hold it until they can obtain full returns, and then publish them in the *Methodist Protestant*.

Rev. Drs. Linn and Huston, and Rev. S. Kepler, Fraternal Messengers from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, were introduced to the Conference by the President. They bore the fraternal greetings of their Church to the Conference, and their brotherly salutations were duly acknowledged by the President.

The following resolutions were then introduced by Dr. Murray, and adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

Resolved, That this General Conference is highly gratified by the fraternal visit of Rev. Dr. Linn, Rev. Dr. Huston and Rev. S. Kepler, messengers appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Resolved, That we reciprocate fully the expressions of Christian regard which have been addressed to us by the esteemed representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Resolved, That we congratulate our sister Church upon the successful introduction of the lay element in her highest legislative department, and would fain hope that this auspicious beginning is a sure indication of further modification in her polity, tending to bring that Church and our own still nearer together.

The report on Convention was again taken up, and the previous question called and sustained. Dr. Batchelor called for a vote by orders. It was decided that the Conference is not clothed with conventional powers by the following vote:

Ministerial.—Ayes—L. W. Bates, J. J. Murray, J. K. Nichols, A. Webster, S. B. Southerland, J. T. Murray, T. D. Valiant, D. E. Reese, H. C. Cushing, E. J. Drinkhouse, John Roberts, Thomas Aaron, J. W. Chandler, G. R. Barr, G. H. McFaden, M. F. Rosser, F. H. M. Henderson, Joseph Watrous—18.

Nays—John Clarke, George Nestor, J. G. Weaver, Oliver Lowther, W. M. Betts, T. H. Pegram, C. A. Pickens, A. C. Harris, C. F. Harris, John Paris, L. F. Cosby, J. G. Whitfield, Wm. Trogdon, E. C. G. Nickens—14.

Laymen.—Ayes—Gaven Spence, J. W. Hering, John G. Clarke, J. D. Cathell, B. H. Richardson, M. T. Peoples, C. E. Crenshaw—7.

Nays—Samuel Engle, G. J. Cherry, P. A. Cox, J. P. Speight, Dr. Batchelor, C. W. Button, J. B. McDaniel, James Vancamp—8.

Rev. G. R. Barr entered the following protest:

The undersigned, recognized upon the floor of this General Conference as representatives from the Holston Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, believing that said Conference was legally organized in December, 1867, in full accord with the requirements of sec. 4, Art. 9, of the Constitution, beg leave to enter their protest against the action of this General Conference, by which Holston Conference has been disfranchised in her vote upon the question of a call for a Convention. We claim that having complied with the requirements of the Constitution, the Holston Conference was invested with the full right to do and enact such business as any Conference represented upon this floor, and respectfully ask that this, their protest, be entered upon the Journal of this General Conference.

GEORGE R. BARR,
M. T. PEOPLES.

After explanations by sundry brethren in reference to their votes, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the President.

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The item of the Judiciary Committee's report abolishing the office of Deacon was under discussion, when, on motion of Dr. Batchelor, it was laid on the table. The Report, as adopted, is as follows:

1. The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report in part, that with reference to the Resolution marked No. 7, they recommend the insertion, on page 116, after the heading "Marriage Ceremony," the following Rubric, viz: No Minister of this Church shall celebrate Matrimony contrary to our Lord's decision at Matth. xix., 9.

2. The proposition to modify the regulation concerning the Electoral College, in the Resolution marked No. 2, your Committee cannot approve, in view of the convenience of the existing rule, to the Unstationed Ministers.

3. In the matter of the Resolution, No. 3, we recommend to insert, p. 113, after the 5th P, as follows: "This Church disapproves of Rebaptism."

4. We report favorably on paper No. 15, as it proposes to commit the matter of the duration of the probationary relation to the discretion of the Churches.

Respectfully submitted,

A. WEBSTER,
L. F. COSBY,
J. B. McDANIEL.

Rev. C. F. Harris, presented the following resolutions on Convention:

Resolved, That this General Conference does hereby recommend to the Annual Conferences the call of a General Convention, to be held in the city of Lynchburg, Va., on _____, for the special purpose of considering the following alterations in the Constitution, to wit:

ELEVENTH DAY.

Conference was opened by Dr. J. J. Murray. Mr. T. Peoples was excused from attendance after to-day. Also J. D. Cathell, W. W. Betts, Samuel Engle and Rev. John Paris.

Revs. L. W. Bates and J. G. Whitfield were released from their appointments as Fraternal Messengers.

The chairman of the Committee on Statistics presented his report, but it being incomplete, the Committee were permitted to hold it until they can obtain full returns, and then publish them in the *Methodist Protestant*.

Rev. Drs. Linn and Huston, and Rev. S. Kepler, Fraternal Messengers from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, were introduced to the Conference by the President. They bore the fraternal greetings of their Church to the Conference, and their brotherly salutations were duly acknowledged by the President.

The following resolutions were then introduced by Dr. Murray, and adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

Resolved, That this General Conference is highly gratified by the fraternal visit of Rev. Dr. Linn, Rev. Dr. Huston and Rev. S. Kepler, messengers appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Resolved, That we reciprocate fully the expressions of Christian regard which have been addressed to us by the esteemed representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Resolved, That we congratulate our sister Church upon the successful introduction of the lay element in her highest legislative department, and would fain hope that this auspicious beginning is a sure indication of further modification in her polity, tending to bring that Church and our own still nearer together.

The report on Convention was again taken up, and the previous question called and sustained. Dr. Batchelor called for a vote by orders. It was decided that the Conference is not clothed with conventional powers by the following vote:

Ministerial.—Ayes—L. W. Bates, J. J. Murray, J. K. Nichols, A. Webster, S. B. Southerland, J. T. Murray, T. D. Valiant, D. E. Reese, H. C. Cushing, E. J. Drinkhouse, John Roberts, Thomas Aaron, J. W. Chandler, G. R. Barr, G. H. McFaden, M. F. Rosser, F. H. M. Henderson, Joseph Watrous—18.

Nays—John Clarke, George Nestor, J. G. Weaver, Oliver Lowther, W. M. Betts, T. H. Pegram, C. A. Pickens, A. C. Harris, C. F. Harris, John Paris, L. F. Cosby, J. G. Whitfield, Wm. Trogdon, E. C. G. Nickens—14.

Laymen.—Ayes—Gaven Spence, J. W. Hering, John G. Clarke, J. D. Cathell, B. H. Richardson, M. T. Peoples, C. E. Crenshaw—7.

Nays—Samuel Engle, G. J. Cherry, P. A. Cox, J. P. Speight, Dr. Batchelor, C. W. Button, J. B. McDaniel, James Vancamp—8.

Rev. G. R. Barr entered the following protest:

The undersigned, recognized upon the floor of this General Conference as representatives from the Holston Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, believing that said Conference was legally organized in December, 1867, in full accord with the requirements of sec. 4, Art. 9, of the Constitution, beg leave to enter their protest against the action of this General Conference, by which Holston Conference has been disfranchised in her vote upon the question of a call for a Convention. We claim that having complied with the requirements of the Constitution, the Holston Conference was invested with the full right to do and enact such business as any Conference represented upon this floor, and respectfully ask that this, their protest, be entered upon the Journal of this General Conference.

GEORGE R. BARR,
M. T. PEOPLES.

The Western Maryland College was incorporated by the General Assembly of Maryland at its session of 1868. The Board of Trustees created under the act of incorporation is composed of thirty-three members, eleven of whom are ministerial members of the Maryland Annual Conference M. P. Church, the remainder, with the exception of two or three, being members of said Church, and all in hearty sympathy with us in our Church interests. The second collegiate year, under the auspices of the Board, has nearly reached its close, and the prosperity which has attended it during the two years of its existence has more than equalled the most sanguine expectations of its friends. There is in connection with the college a department of theology, in which young men preparing for the ministry are received and thoroughly instructed. To this feature of the College we would call special attention. The College is located in one of the most beautiful and healthy regions of Western Maryland, adjacent to the town of Westminster, the capitol of Carroll county, and is surrounded by a Methodist Protestant influence of great strength and activity. It is under the patronage of the Maryland Annual Conference, and promises, in the opinion of your Committee, to be an institution of great usefulness to the Church.

Your Committee are aware that for the present, at least, the principal influence of this institution will extend to the Maryland District, but they are at the same time of opinion that the time is not far distant when its power for good will be felt throughout the Church at large.

The establishment of an institution of learning, such as will command the confidence of the whole Church, is a necessity which we cannot longer resist. Such an institution, we believe, has its foundations in the Western Maryland College, and upon these, with the encouragement of the Church and its fostering care, will be reared that for which we have so long and earnestly looked. Be it, therefore,

Resolved by this General Conference, That the Western Maryland College is recommended to the confidence and support of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The Report on Home and Foreign Missions was next considered and the first part adopted.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions having had under consideration the papers from Des Moines Mission Conference, viz: A letter from Rev. J. K. Dawson, Representative from said Conference, and Rev. John Sexsmith, Missionary to Des Moines Mission, together with the Report of the Board of Missions, beg leave to submit the following report:

We find, from the sources indicated above, that Des Moines Mission Conference is composed of what was before two distinct Missions, called respectively Des Moines Mission, situated in the Northeastern portion of Missouri, and Wapello Mission, situated chiefly in the Southeastern portion of Iowa. Within this District there are 300 children in our Sunday Schools, from 300 to 500 members, 9 organized Churches, 6 church buildings, and 4 Itinerant Ministers. The established boundaries of the District are as follows: "All the States of Missouri and Iowa, not included within the bounds of any other Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church."

From the report of Rev. John Sexsmith, of Des Moines Mission, to the President of the Board of Missions, it appears that arrangements for a union between the Des Moines Mission Conference and the Illinois Conference have been completed, and the consent of this General Conference is desired. It is further desired that the Districts thus united, be constituted a Mission Conference with the title, as we suggest, of the Illinois and Des Moines Mission Conference, and commended to the fostering care of the Church and the Board of Missions. We recommend that these requests be granted; though from the Report of the Board of Missions herewith presented, we see but little prospect of extending to this struggling Mission the material aid its circumstances seem to require.

Your Committee recommend that the communication from Rev. John Sexsmith be read to the Conference. We also desire to urge upon all our Annual Conferences the importance of taking measures to give immediate and hearty support to our Board of Missions; that the means of the Church may be employed in the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom under the auspices of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The following Brethren are recommended as the Board of Missions to be elected by this General Conference.

Rev. S. B. Southerland, D. D., Rev. J. J. Murray, D. D., Rev. H. F. Zollickoffer,

Page 25, Article X, substitute for section 7, the following:

"Each Annual Conference may adopt such regulations as it may deem advisable for the maintenance of an efficient itinerant ministry, provided that the appointments are made annually."

Page 26, Article XI, section 1, strike out all after the word "Conference," in line four, to "successively," in line five.

Page 27, strike out the word Superintendent, where it occurs here and elsewhere, and substitute Pastor.

Page 28, Article XII, strike out sections 1 and 2, and insert the following:

1. "Each Annual Conference shall define and regulate the terms of suffrage and eligibility to office within its own District."

2. No person shall be eligible as a representative in the General Conference until he shall have attained the age of twenty-five years, and shall have been in full membership two years.

Conference adjourned with benediction by Rev. H. C. Cushing.

TWELFTH DAY.

Conference was opened by Rev. H. C. Cushing.

The resolution on Convention was taken up and G. J. Cherry moved to strike out Lynchburg and leave time and place to be determined by the Annual Conferences through their Presidents. The motion was negatived.

Dr. Herring proposed to fill the blank with the first Friday in May, 1874. Adopted.

The resolution of Rev. A. C. Harris, as amended, was then adopted.

The President was invested with authority to appoint Fraternal Messengers to the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, after he learns where its session is to be held.

Rev. T. H. Pegram and M. T. Peoples were appointed to fill the vacancies in the delegation to the General Conference of the Methodist Church.

The Report on Sabbath Schools was adopted.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools recommend the following amendments to the Discipline:

1. Insert as section 12th on page 48 of the Discipline, "Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervisory authority over all the Sabbath Schools belonging to the circuit, station or mission and the respective Superintendents thereof shall be elected by the Quarterly Conference in circuits, and by the male members' meeting in Stations and Missions."

2. Insert as section 12th on page 68 of the Discipline, "The Superintendent is a member of all Sabbath School Societies and Teachers' Meetings belonging to his pastoral charge, and shall be the Chairman of the meeting."

E. J. DRINKHOUSE, *Chairman.*

The Report of the Executive Committee, recommending a change in the first and second paragraphs of the article in Discipline, page 35, to make it read as follows, was adopted:

"If the person admonished bring forth fruits meet for repentance, no further notice shall be taken of the case; but if he persist in his sinful conduct, the committee shall then prefer charges and proceed according to the directions contained in the sections following."

The report of the Committee on Literature was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee to whom has been referred the matter of the Western Maryland College, beg leave to report as follows:

1st. That thus far, very few Journals have come into our possession, notwithstanding the repeated calls made for them.

2d. That those of the following Conferences have been handed in: Texas, North Arkansas, South Carolina, Holston, North Carolina, West Virginia and Maryland.

3d. The Committee finds from the Journal, that the South Carolina Conference held its Electoral College *on Saturday*, instead of on Monday as the Discipline prescribes; and that the proceedings of *three* sessions only were furnished.

That the Committee has had from the Texas District the proceedings of but *one* session of their Conference.

The Committee also finds from the Journal that the Holston Conference did not go into an Electoral College, but elected its Representatives in open Conference. It is proper, however, to say that the Rev. G. R. Barr, Representative from that District, states this to have been an omission of the Secretary of the Conference, and that the Electoral College was duly and properly organized.

On behalf of the Committee.

WILL. H. WILLS, *Chairman.*

The report on Means of Grace, recommending some unimportant change in the Discipline on the subject of baptism, was rejected.

The following report on Boundaries includes all the items adopted:

The Committee on Boundaries, having had the subject committed to them under careful consideration, beg leave to report as follows:

1. That the Holston District shall embrace all Southwestern Virginia lying West of New River—all of East Tennessee not embraced in the Tennessee District.

2. That the North Carolina District embrace the State of North Carolina.

3. That the Virginia District shall embrace all that part of the State lying east of New River and not embraced in the Maryland District.

4. That the West Virginia District be so changed as, in addition to its present territory, to embrace all that part of the State of Ohio originally embraced in the Muskingum District, and all that part of the State of Pennsylvania not included in the Maryland and Pennsylvania Districts.

5. That the Illinois District be so divided as to set off all that part of the State lying south of a line beginning at Illinoistown, on the Mississippi river opposite St. Louis, and running by the line of the Ohio and Mississippi railroad to the Wabash river into a new district to be called South Illinois District.

6. That the Illinois District, embracing all that part of the State lying north of the line above described, be so extended as to include the whole of the territory heretofore embraced in the Des Moines Mission Conference.

7. That the Pennsylvania District be bounded as follows: Beginning at the junction of the Lehigh and Delaware rivers, and run thence, by a direct line, to Harrisburg (including that city) thence by the Susquehanna river to the mouth of Juniata, thence up the Juniata to the dividing line of Mifflin and Huntingdon counties, thence by a direct line, due north, into Alleghany county, New York, so far as to embrace Broome county by a line due east, thence by the northeast and east line, Broome county to the Delaware, and thence by said river to the place of beginning.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

The Committee on Boundaries beg leave to submit an additional report, and submit the following as the boundary of North Arkansas Conference: Beginning at the northwest corner of Polk county, running east to a little river called "Fush," down this stream to the Arkansas river, and with said Arkansas river to its confluence with the Mississippi, including all that part of the State of Arkansas lying north of said line.

Texas to include all of Texas east of the Trinity river.

Note—The committee have no information as to the boundary of the Colorado District.

Have no information as to boundary of North Mississippi District.

On motion of Dr. Batchelor, Colorado was added to the list of Conferences.

Note—The committee have nothing before them to enable them to report as to the boundary of the McCaine Conference District.

M. D., Rev. Thomas McCormick, Rev. H. T. Gernhardt, and Bros. E. C. Thomas, J. H. Hopkins, J. G. Clarke, William Bond, J. E. A. Cunningham, James Bond and James Frame.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. C. CUSHING,
J. W. WILLIAMSON,
J. W. CHANDLER.

On motion, the Illinois Conference was changed to Illinois and Des Moines Mission Conference.

The following paper, presented by B. H. Richardson, Esq., which had been referred to the Committee on Missions, was reported upon adversely by the Committee, but the Conference non-concurred in the unfavorable report and adopted the paper :

Each Annual Conference shall have authority to employ and appoint its ministers or preachers to serve as Home Missionaries in any unoccupied portions of its district for the purpose of preaching the Gospel therein, and raising societies with a view to the formation of new stations and circuits under the Constitution and Discipline of this Church. Whenever from pecuniary inability to support a pastor, or any other cause which the Annual Conference may deem sufficient to justify the conversion of a circuit or station into a mission, the Annual Conference may make such change.

The Conference shall have authority to prescribe the duties of its Home Missionaries, to provide for their support, and in cases of deficiencies to allow them a proportionate part of the funds of the Annual Conference raised for Missionary purposes.

The Conference shall, further, have authority to change the appointments of said Missionaries at its annual sessions, or continue them, as the Conference shall judge best, and to require of the Missionaries to make regular reports at said sessions of the success and progress of their labors, as to the societies they have organized, and any other objects connected with their Missions; and to prescribe such rules and regulations for the government of said societies, in conformity to the constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, as the Conference shall, in its judgment of their circumstances, decide to set them off and organize them into regular stations or circuits.

Class-leaders and Stewards in missions shall be appointed by the missionary, and be subject to removal by him.

The Report as a whole, as amended, was adopted :

Dr. Murray offered the following, which was adopted :

Where any church of another denomination signifies a desire to receive a ministerial supply from any Annual Conference, said Conference may accede to the wishes of the church making application by appointment from year to year, as it may see fit. Provided that the church thus supplied shall co-operate with the Conference in its various measures of benevolence and religion.

The Committee on Temperance reported.

Having examined the memorial submitted to us from the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of the State of Maryland, we respectfully recommend that the following resolutions be adopted :

Resolved, That the Conference heartily concur in the views respecting temperance expressed in said memorial, and, with the memorialists, deeply deplore the physical intellectual, moral and spiritual wreck of both society and the Church, caused by intemperance.

Resolved, That the manufacture, traffic and use of intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal or mechanical purposes, is to be deprecated by every friend of morality and religion, and that the pulpit and the press of the Church should lend their vigorous co-operation to the suppression of the same.

The report on Journals, presented by W. H. Wills, chairman, was adopted :

The Committee on Journals submits respectfully the following Report, in part :

MINUTES OF THE CONVENTION ON THE Book Concern and Periodical, HELD MAY 11, 1870.

The Convention was organized by calling Rev. D. E. Reese, D. D., to the chair, and Rev. H. C. Cushing was chosen Secretary.

The report of the Book Directory was presented and read by Rev. J. J. Murray, D. D.

Report of Board of Directors of the Book Concern to the Convention of 1870.

BALTIMORE, April 15, 1870.

To the President and Members of the Convention having charge of the Methodist Protestant Book Concern and Periodical:

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Board of Directors, as required by their act of incorporation, and the regulations in accordance therewith, respectfully submit, for your consideration, the following report:

I. GENERAL VIEW OF THE BUSINESS OF THE CONCERN.

Estimated worth of Concern on the 1st day of March, 1870, \$7,166.82.

The above estimate includes the following items:

Stock in Trade.....	\$1,682.34
Bills Receivable.....	1,312.88
City Stock.....	2,500.00
Cash in Hand.....	1,860.45
	<hr/>
	\$7,355.67
Liabilities	188.85
	<hr/>
	\$7,166.82

The estimated worth of the Concern on the 1st of March, 1866, was \$5,130.76.

This estimate included the items to wit:

Stock in Trade,.....	\$2,062.25
Bills Receivable.....	1,437.30
City Stock and R. R. Bonds.....	2,500.00
Cash in hand.	57.70
	<hr/>
	\$6,057.75
Liabilities	926.49
	<hr/>
	\$5,130.76

The net profit in four years, therefore, amounted to..... \$2,036.06

The number of subscribers on the 1st of March, 1870, was... 3,185
On the 1st of March, 1866..... 1,848

Increase in four years..... 1,337

McCaine recognized as Annual Conference; the boundary line between it and Colorado to be adjusted by the two Conferences. The said Conferences to possess all the State of Texas except that included in the Texas District.

The Committee on Boundaries beg to state that they have information that justifies them in reporting the existence of a Conference District in Indiana, and therefore submit that the Indiana Conference be recognized as a constituent Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to include the State of Indiana.

The Committee on Boundaries report that the Arkansas District shall include all the State of Arkansas not included in the North Arkansas District.

GEORGE R. BARR,
D. EVANS REESE,
J. P. SPEIGHT,

GEORGE NESTOR,
J. K. NICHOLS.

Rev. Dr. J. J. Murray, Rev. J. T. Murray and John G. Clarke were appointed a Committee on Revision of the Discipline.

Rev. J. Clark moved that the first paragraph on "Means of Grace," in Discipline, be amended so as to include baptism, thus:

The means of grace recognized by this Church are, the public worship of Almighty God, searching the Scriptures, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, love feasts, class-meetings, private and family prayer.

Adopted.

The Illinois and Des Moines Mission Districts were united as one, to be styled the Illinois and Des Moines Conference.

Rev. G. H. McFaden offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are hereby tendered to the respective railroad and steamboat companies that have kindly granted a free return ticket to its members.

On motion of Dr. Hering, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That our thanks are hereby tendered to the President of the Conference for the dignified and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office. Also to the Secretaries for their faithful and efficient services in the discharge of their duties.

On motion of Dr. L. W. Bates, 10 o'clock, A. M., was fixed as the hour for opening the next session of the General Conference.

A hymn was then sung and a prayer offered by Rev. L. W. Bates, D. D., and the Conference adjourned.

J. THOMAS MURRAY, }
G. J. CHERRY, } *Secretaries.*

"Resolved, That the pastors of Green Street and Aisquith Street Churches, be each allowed, as a small remuneration for their services in editing the *Protestant*, the sum of two hundred dollars."

At the same time, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That, in consequence of the Book Agent (T. W. Ewing) having relinquished a portion of his salary at the commencement of the war, that he now be allowed two hundred dollars—one hundred at this time, and one hundred the last quarter of the year."

In making arrangements for the year 1870, the Directors felt themselves constrained to return to the plan of soliciting gratuitous editorial service. They were not required to do this by an empty treasury; they were not in doubt respecting their authority to render compensation for editorial labor; neither had they any doubt that the course pursued by them, the preceding year, was dictated by justice and expediency; but inasmuch as the Maryland Conference, the chief supporter of the paper, had expressed a preference for a different policy; and but little more than one year would elapse before the meeting of the Convention, it was thought, by the Directors, that to yield their own judgment, in regard to the management of the paper, for the intervening time, would probably result in less injury to the Church, than the disturbance of harmonious relations between official bodies. Accordingly, they assigned to Mr. Thomas W. Ewing, Agent, the duty of reading proof, and the supervision of the Commercial, Agricultural, Business, Revival and Obituary departments of the paper; and to an Advisory Committee, consisting of Rev. A. Webster, Rev. J. J. Murray and Rev. D. Bowers, the supervision of the editorial columns, original contributions, and selections in general. The appointment of the Advisory Committee having been made and accepted with the understanding that the Committee would serve gratuitously, the writers of the Church at large, (upon whom, it was presumed, some share of the obligation to serve upon the same terms, rested, and to whom an opportunity of evincing their zeal for the promotion of Church literature was afforded,) were invited, by a publication in the *Protestant*, to send in contributions for its editorial columns. This arrangement went into effect on the 16th of April, 1869; and on the 15th of April, 1870, the editorial matter furnished by the entire body of our ministers and laymen, exclusive of the Advisory Committee, did not exceed fifteen columns.

III. FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE PAPER.

It will be for the Convention to determine in what manner, and upon what conditions, the paper shall be conducted for the next four years. Among the plans that may be suggested, are the following:

1. Unite the offices of Editor and Agent, and employ a clerk, at a limited salary, to perform certain subordinate duties now devolved upon the Agent.

This plan involves the dismissal of the present Agent, who has served the Concern for twenty-nine years; whose fidelity is unsurpassed, and whose obliging disposition gives him a peculiar adaptation to the place. It is questionable whether, as a matter of true economy, the Church could afford to dispense with the services of brother Ewing, for the small annual saving that would accrue from his removal. It is well to consider the risk of substituting an officer of tried integrity, for one whose capacity and faithfulness are to be proven; nor should we overlook the claims upon our Christian consideration of one who has served the Concern from his boyhood, and now, from his very devotion to its interests, is ill prepared to seek remunerative employment elsewhere.

2. Leaving the Agent to his duties, elect an Editor, whose whole time shall be given to the paper. This, unless the Convention is fortunate enough to know some man without a family, or with a very small one, whose literary and moral qualifications indicate him as the man for the place, will involve an annual outlay of \$2,500, or, at the least \$2,000, at the present rates of living in the city of Baltimore. The profits of the Concern for the last year were estimated at \$1,097.08. Now, if it were certain that the profits for the current year would double that sum, the Convention might elect an editor, and allow him a salary of \$2,000. But if the profits of the current year should no more than equal those of the past, there would be a deficit of nearly \$1,000, at the end of the year, for which provision would have to be made from the cash in hand, on the first of March, viz: \$1,860.45. If the Convention should venture on this policy, and the excess of

By reference to the books, it appears that the number of subscribers on the 1st of March, 1867, was 2,151; an increase, as compared with the preceding year, of 303. March 1, 1868, the number of subscribers was 2,235; an increase of 84. March 1, 1869, the number was 2,031; a decrease of 120. March 1, 1870, the number was 3,185; an increase of 1,154; being 851 in excess of the largest increase reported in any year since the last meeting of the Convention.

For a more particular account of the business of the Concern, including the various items of receipt and expenditure, the directors would refer to the annual report submitted to the Maryland Annual Conference, and approved by that body.

The Secretary's book, containing these reports, is subject to the order of the Convention.

II. MANAGEMENT OF THE "METHODIST PROTESTANT."

The Convention of 1866 elected Rev. J. Thomas Murray, Editor, and Thomas W. Ewing, Agent, leaving the salaries to be appropriated at the discretion of the Directors. The Directors, accordingly, on the 13th day of May, in the same year, fixed the salary of the Editor at one thousand dollars, and the salary of the Agent at twelve hundred dollars. On the 5th day of March, following, it was found upon a comparison of the estimated worth of the Concern, for the current year, with that of the year preceding, that there had been a falling off of \$534.87, in view of which a resolution was adopted, declaring that "the present financial condition of the Book Concern rendered it impracticable to make an appropriation for an editor." This resolution was followed by the retirement of the editor, on the 15th day of the same month, the Directors having adopted, at a meeting held four days previous, the following resolution :

"Resolved, That the Directory appreciates the services of Rev. J. T. Murray, as editor, and deeply regret that the financial condition of the Concern renders it necessary to dispense with them."

On the 1st day of April, 1867, Revs. S. B. Southerland, T. D. Valiant, E. J. Drinkhouse, M. D., and Daniel Bowers, were appointed an Editorial Committee, who served without salary, until the ensuing session of the Maryland Annual Conference; after which, Dr. Drinkhouse having been appointed Missionary at 9th Street, Washington, and Dr. J. J. Murray succeeding him as Superintendent of West Baltimore Station, the latter was substituted as a member of the Editorial Committee. On the 1st of March, 1868, it was ascertained that in consequence of the reduction of expenses, the Concern had "recovered the loss of the past year," and had "a net gain of \$330.27." The Directors were then of opinion that it would be expedient to pursue the policy of conducting the paper, by means of unpaid editorial service, until the present meeting of the Convention, and so expressed themselves in their report to the Maryland Conference.

But at their next quarterly meeting, held on the 5th of June following, it was found that the cash in hand exceeded, by nearly three hundred dollars, the largest amount in hand at the expiration of any preceding quarter, since the meeting of the Convention in 1866.

It had, also, become apparent that, under the arrangement previously adopted, the editorial labor and responsibility must devolve almost exclusively upon two members of the committee. Rev. S. B. Southerland, being President of the Maryland Conference, and required to travel through his district, was necessarily absent the greater part of his time from the office; Rev. T. D. Valiant was prevented by business engagements from rendering editorial service; and the experience of previous years having shown that no reliance could be placed upon the Church at large for a regular supply of editorial matter, much less editorial supervision, at an adjourned meeting held on the following day, Bro. John W. Richardson offered, and the Board adopted, the following resolutions :

"WHEREAS, The *Methodist Protestant*, for some time past, has been edited free of charge; and,

"WHEREAS, This arrangement was made in consequence of the inability of the Concern to pay for such service; and,

"WHEREAS, The arrangement was considered at the time, temporary—to last no longer than the depressed condition of our finances required it—and as the improved condition of the finances would now, in the opinion of the Board, justify a small compensation for editorial service; therefore,

On motion of C. W. Button, the following resolution was adopted :

"Resolved, That this Convention is gratified to learn that the condition and prospects of the Book Concern and the *Methodist Protestant* newspaper, under the judicious management of the Book Directory and the editorial corps, are improving to such an extent as to afford the most hopeful augury of their future prosperity, and the Convention hereby tender their thanks to the Directory who have had these interests in their charge, and to the brethren who have successively edited the paper since the last meeting of this body.

Signed,

C. W. BUTTON,
GEO. R. BARR.

Convention then adjourned to meet again on Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Convention on the Book Concern and Periodical resumed its sitting May 18th, at 8 o'clock, P. M., Rev. D. E. Reese, in the Chair.

The committee to which that part of the Report of the Book Directory which relates to the management of the *Methodist Protestant* was referred presented a report which was amended and adopted as follows :

The Committee of one from each Conference District, to whom was referred the third item of the Report of the Book Directory, respectfully report that they have had the same under careful consideration at a meeting where all the members of the committee, save one, were present, and unanimously passed the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the *Methodist Protestant* and Book Concern, being under the control of a Book Directory, subject to the supervision of the Maryland Annual Conference, this Committee recommend that the Directory continue the existing arrangements, if practicable, for the editorial management of the paper, until its receipts shall seem to justify the employment of a salaried editor, whose whole time shall be devoted to the interests of the paper and Book Concern.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. WEBSTER, *Chairman.*

May 11th, 1870.

On motion of Rev. J. T. Murray, the following resolutions were adopted :

1st. That the expenses of printing and stationery required by the General Conference, be paid by the Book Concern ; and,

2d. That the Secretaries be authorized to employ a clerk to write the proceedings of the Conference in the Conference Journal, and that the Book Directory are hereby authorized to pay said clerk for his services.

On motion of Rev. L. W. Bates, it was resolved that the Book Directory be authorized to publish together in pamphlet form the proceedings of this Convention and the Journal of the General Conference.

On motion of Dr. J. W. Hering, it was resolved that the Book Directory be requested to procure a plate for the preparation of Certificates of Membership in the Missionary Society.

The Convention then adjourned.

H. C. CUSHING, *Secretary.*

receipts over expenditures, in coming years be equal to, but not greater than it was the past year, the paper might be carried on until the next Convention; but it would absorb the whole amount of cash in hand, and leave a debt to be paid by selling a portion of our stock.

3. If the Convention should leave the entire management of the Concern, including election of Editor and Agent, with their salaries, &c., to the Directors, as the Convention of 1865 did, the Board are of opinion that they can make arrangements for having the paper edited satisfactorily, at a cost much less than the foregoing estimates, until such time as they may see their way clear to employ an editor whose whole time shall be given to the paper. That time, judging from the increase of subscribers, is not very far distant, and may be hastened by the zealous exertions of our ministers and members throughout the Church. It has seemed proper to us to make these suggestions by way of information. It will be for the Convention to decide which of them is preferable; or whether some other plan, which the Convention, in its wisdom, may devise, is to be preferred to either.

IV. CHANGES IN THE BOARD.

Several changes in the Board have taken place since the last quadrennial report, viz: Luther J. Cox, Jr., was chosen to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. H. F. Zollickoffer, M. D.; Rev. A. Webster, D. D., in place of Rev. T. D. Valiant, removed from the city; and George W. Taylor, in place of John W. Richardson, deceased. In the death of Bro. Richardson, the Board has sustained the loss of an honored associate, and the Church a valuable member. For twenty-one years he had taken part in the management of the Concern, serving sometimes as President, sometimes as Treasurer of the Board, and always with fidelity and acceptability. He was a man of many virtues, winning, in whatever station he occupied, the respect and esteem of those that knew him well. It was hoped that he would take part in the proceedings of this Convention, having been elected a representative by the Conference to which he belonged. But, by the inscrutable ordering of Providence, he was taken away, in a few weeks after his election, from all participation in earthly scenes. We mourn his departure, but doubt not that he "rests from his labors," and that "his works do follow him."

Asking the guidance of the great Head of the Church for the Convention, and His blessing upon the result of its deliberations, we are

Your brethren in Christ,

L. J. COX, JR.,
W. M. H. GRIFFITH,
E. C. THOMAS,
A. WEBSTER,

JOHN J. MURRAY,
J. THOS. MURRAY,
JOHN G. CLARKE,
GEO. W. TAYLOR.

On motion of Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, the report of the Book Directory was adopted, except that part of it which relates to the management of the *Methodist Protestant*, which, on motion, was referred to a committee composed of one from each Annual Conference represented in the Convention.

On motion of Rev. S. B. Southerland, D. D., it was resolved that each delegation select one of its own number to serve on said committee. After a recess of 10 minutes, the following were reported as members of the committee, viz:

Maryland, Rev. A. Webster, D. D.; West Virginia, Rev. George Nestor; North Carolina, Rev. W. H. Wills; South Carolina, Mr. Lewis Yarbrough; Arkansas, Rev. Thomas Aaron; Tennessee, Rev. J. W. Chandler; Illinois, Mr. O. Ames; Virginia, Mr. C. W. Button; Holston, Mr. M. T. Peoples; Alabama, Rev. A. G. Grove; Texas, Rev. M. F. Rosser; North Arkansas, Rev. Wm. Trogdon; Georgia, Rev. F. H. M. Henderson; South Illinois, Rev. E. C. G. Nickens.